

The Nation

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NEW YORK, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 1885.

The Week.

SENATOR ALLISON, of Iowa, is quoted as saying at Chicago on Monday that in his judgment it will not be feasible to stop the coinage of silver dollars altogether in the coming Congress, although it may be practicable to suspend such coinage for a definite period, provided that, at the expiration of the period, it shall be resumed without further legislation. This means, of course, that, in Mr. Allison's judgment, the silver men would probably consent to give the country a breathing spell provided no risk were incurred of encountering an Executive veto when it should be proposed to resume the coinage. Meanwhile it is Senator Allison's idea that Europe should once more be invited to an international monetary conference, under the stress and discipline of coinage suspension by the United States and of a possible silver crisis. The Senator from Iowa is probably better acquainted with the current of opinion among the silver men than any other Republican statesman. Indeed, he may understand the drift of their counsels better than the Democratic leaders themselves, because he is a man of more intelligence and less prejudice than Bland, Warner, Beck, or any of those who figured as the special champions of silver in the last Congress. On the Republican side of the House his opinion is not likely to be at fault. If we may assume that the policy which he prefigures will receive the support of the Republicans who voted against coinage suspension in March last, and also of the more moderate Democrats like Randall, Carlisle, and Morrison, there is good reason to hope that it may be carried into effect early in the coming session.

Whether the leading Powers of Europe would consent to join us in another Monetary Conference, is extremely doubtful. The bi-metallic whimsy which had possession of Prince Bismarck some time ago has, according to late advices, altogether departed. Except in the brain of the Chancellor, bi-metallism has had no lodgment in Germany since the new monetary system of the empire went into operation. From England we may expect the usual courtesy which that country extends to proposals from friendly Powers, accompanied by the usual frank avowal of her purpose not to change her monetary system under any circumstances. The Latin Union is now reduced virtually to France and Italy, Belgium having withdrawn, and Switzerland and Greece counting for nothing at any time. In fact, the Latin Union is a simulacrum, a fleshless skeleton, a mere form of words, having no economical significance. Its monetary system is termed by Cernuschi "hump-backed bi-metallism," but it is worse than that. It is bi-metallism of the graveyard, and it will never be anything better, although probably both France and Italy would make a great show of doing something if another international conference were called. Both would require, as a condition of entering into an

international compact, that England or Germany, one or the other, should give adhesion to it, and we on our part would be satisfied with nothing less. While we judge that such a condition is impossible of fulfilment, we should very cheerfully concur in the calling of a new conference on the plan suggested by Senator Allison, viz.: that the coinage of silver by the United States be temporarily suspended. Our position at the expiration of the interval would be no worse than it is now. It would probably be better, since the experience gained in the meantime would dissipate many of the illusions which now beset the honest supporters of "hump-backed bi-metallism," for it is almost certain that the business of the whole country would improve if the silver menace were once removed from the commercial horizon.

As we anticipated, Sterling has not been appointed to the vacant Weighership, and O'Brien, who stood first on the eligible list, has. In other words, the best man for the place has got it, and an end has been put to the glee with which all the enemies of the reform were expecting some sort of change in the President's attitude towards the competitive system. It is, on the whole, fortunate that the affair took the course it did, inasmuch as it has supplied a final test of the President's sincerity and good intentions. It was not unnatural that, as the Commission was in doubt whether the Weighership came under the rules or not, he should have questioned whether it ought to come under them, considering that the person filling the place has the command of a large force of men. When he was in this hesitating state of mind the suggestion of submitting the whole eligible list was made to him, as a way out of the difficulty, when what ought to have been done was to call his attention to the probation prescribed by the rules as a means of testing the qualities which cannot be reached by examination. It was perhaps at this stage in the affair that he wrote the explanation which appeared in the *Washington Post*. But more mature consideration doubtless proved to him that the suspension of the competitive rule in a case like this would furnish a precedent which would be used by the enemies of reform to ruin the whole system. It cannot be too often repeated that all they ask for is a non-competitive examination. With this and a low minimum which all "the boys" could reach, they would be happy as clams at high water.

We congratulate Mr. Hedden on his escape from a fix into which he never would have got had he paid a little more attention to the drift of public opinion and to the policy of the Administration.

We do our best, as our readers will bear witness, to prepare the Lifelong Democrats for the repeated shocks which the President gives them by his appointing fit men to office. We warned them some time ago that they would get no comfort out of the Sterling case, or, in other words, that the United States would not take custom-house weighers

from the adjacent pothouses; we told them, too, that Hill's victory in the election would do them no good, would not even alleviate their sufferings. Consequently, if they feel very low under the influence of the O'Brien appointment, we are not to blame. There is only one remedy for this low condition of the nerves, and that is to abandon resolutely the habit of brooding over the downfall of the spoils system and longing for its return. This produces exhausting dreams of custom-houses and post-offices filled with ward heelers, gamblers, drunkards, pugilists, and liquor-dealers, with a stream of removals pouring out of one door and a stream of new appointments constantly pouring in at another. Nothing is worse than these visions for the health both of mind and body. The remedy is air and exercise, and frequent visits to properly conducted and prosperous business houses, and the careful perusal of *Mugwump* newspapers.

"Dealers in wines and brandies in a small way" is the name the spoilsmen now give the liquor-dealers whom they put up for office. The liquor-dealers themselves employ similar devices to disguise their callings. Twenty years ago, they used to acknowledge that they kept bar-rooms. But they then began to call the bar rooms "sample-rooms," and now the "sample-room" has given place to "the wine-room." Among the Massachusetts civil-service rules is a very wise one absolutely disqualifying liquor-dealers for office, for the very good reason that although a liquor-dealer may be and sometimes is a respectable man, as a general rule his bar is a source of social and political corruption for the whole neighborhood, a place in which a large part of the crimes both against order and good government are planned and prepared. In fact, the liquor-dealing politician is in this city and State to-day one of the curses of our society, and one of the worst enemies to every species of improvement either in the manners of the people or the administration of the laws.

The *World* announced in leaded type on Thursday, "Another Mugwump Appointment," with much mourning. But we have always told it and others of its kind that there would surely be another; we told them so before the election; we told them so, too, after the election, when they were flattering themselves that *Mugwump* was at an end. We tell them now again, that they may expect *Mugwump* appointments every few days. Used with regard to appointments, the term "Mugwump" means "good." A *Mugwump* appointee is an honest, intelligent, upright man, selected with sole or chief reference to his competency for the duties of the office. Mr. Leverett Saltonstall, the Boston Collector, is such a man, although he is not Patrick Collins's "man." The gentleman selected by Mr. Collins for the place was Mr. Peter Butler, who is also highly respectable and would have filled it worthily.

But may not his failure to get it be in some degree due to the fact that it was Mr. Collins's advice which led to the appointment of Pillsbury, one of the President's worst mistakes, and that since then he has been a little shy of following Mr. Collins's suggestions? Moreover, Mr. Butler is by no means committed to the cause of civil-service reform as Mr. Saltonstall is. Mr. Butler might possibly take a weigher out of a pothouse, but no one would ask Mr. Saltonstall to do it.

One of the agitating questions in the stock market and in other business circles relates to the probable attitude of the new Administration toward the railroads, and especially toward the Union Pacific's bond debt to the United States. The report of the Commissioner of Railroads, in whose charge this class of questions primarily fall, is said to be in no sense aggressive. He adopts the recommendations of the Senate Finance Committee of the last Congress, that the Union Pacific's indebtedness be divided into 120 semi-annual payments, which shall include the principal and interest due from the company for the whole period, in place of the uncertain requirements of the existing law. The Thurman act has been found to be unintelligible in part, and not susceptible of execution in any satisfactory way. It was declared by Mr. Thurman himself to be only a tentative measure. Its supporters in the Senate refused to be bound by it for any definite period. They voted down the Blaine amendment, which committed the Government against altering or amending it so long as the company should comply with its provisions. Sufficient experience has been had to show that it is difficult of execution and disadvantageous to the Government. The bill proposed by the Senate committee does effectually secure the payment of all the money due, if the company can earn it. Of course if the company cannot earn it the money cannot be paid under any act whatever. The concurrence of the Commissioner of Railroads, which presupposes that of the Administration, in this plan affords good ground for the belief that there is to be no wanton crusade against the Union Pacific or against railroads generally during President Cleveland's term.

The anti-Chinese craze on the Pacific Coast has reached its limit of insane folly. Hitherto the people of that region have only insisted upon legislation to prevent the coming of more Chinese to this country. Now they are beginning to demand that those who are already here shall be shipped home post haste. The San Francisco *Post*, which aspires with success to lead the raid upon the race, declares that "agitation for the enactment of a law prohibiting further immigration, and providing for the return to their own country of the Chinese now here, has become the duty of the people of the States and Territories cursed by the presence of the coolies." According to the census of 1880, there were in the State of California 73,548 Chinese out of 864,694 people of all races, or one Chinese out of every twelve. The proportion in Oregon and in Washington Territory was even smaller. The practical stoppage of immigration from China after 1882 must render the ratio of Chinese to the whole population still less now than in 1880.

But admit that there is still one Chinaman out of every dozen people. Did the Caucasian race ever make a worse showing than when eleven white men insist that the yellow man who makes the twelfth must be sent out of the country because otherwise they will be ruined by his competition?

The Marquis Tseng, the Chinese Ambassador in England and France, is said to be very indignant over the attacks on the Chinese in Washington Territory and elsewhere, and thinks something should be done by way of retaliation. But something is being done. The Government is prosecuting the perpetrators of the outrages, and this is all any government can do. It may be that verdicts cannot be obtained against them. In this case it will be more than ever the duty of the President to take extraordinary measures for the protection of the Chinese in any Territory in which they seem to be exposed to violence.

The terrors of a receivership have been set forth in the direst colors by the demand made by the two receivers of the New York, West Shore and Buffalo Railroad for the sum of \$700,000 for their individual services for a period of eighteen months. This claim is founded upon the Haggerty act, so called, which was passed by the Legislature April 11, 1883, entitled "an act in relation to receivers of corporations," the second section of which reads as follows:

"SEC. 2. Every receiver shall be allowed to receive as compensation for his services as such receiver five per cent. of the first hundred thousand dollars actually received and paid out, and two and one-half per cent. on all sums received and paid out in excess of said one hundred thousand dollars."

It may be assumed without argument that neither the valiant Haggerty, whose name is attached to this act, nor any member of the Legislature who followed his lead, intended to frame a measure which should enable a railroad manager to charge at the rate of \$250,000 per year for his services and collect that sum out of the passengers and freight transported by the road. Yet this is *prima facie* what the law authorizes. We say *prima facie* because Judge Brown, in whose court the receivership proceedings were instituted, allowed only \$40,000 each to the receivers for their services, or at the rate of \$25,000 per annum each, taking for his guide the highest compensation now paid by any solvent railroad company to any officer. When asked to increase the compensation of the West Shore receivers, according to the terms of the Haggerty act, the Judge refused to do so. He also refused to postpone the sale of the road under foreclosure, which has been fixed for the 24th of November. He has, however, so far modified the order of sale that the receivers can prosecute their claims to the Court of Appeals, retaining a lien for their compensation on the road itself.

The \$700,000 claim has a twofold aspect, one to the parties immediately interested and another to the public. To the purchasers of the West Shore property, viz., the New York Central Railroad Company, the demand of the receivers naturally appears to be the most

unreasonable and unprecedented claim ever set up in the history of the world. It is certain that if it were presented to any legislature or court in Christendom on the basis of *quantum meruit*, it would be rejected with derision and contumely. But to the public it suggests another line of thought, and first and foremost, that when ignorance is vested with the law-making power in any State, it becomes a dreadful instrument of torture. The Haggerty act was undoubtedly intended to curtail and limit the compensation of receivers and not to augment them. But this idea being committed to the execution of clowns, it turned out to be something widely different from the preconception of the framers. Conjoined with this reflection it will occur to all thinking men that the haste with which laws are commonly passed at Albany, and must under our present system be passed, is destructive of all methodical habits of legislation and extremely dangerous to the public weal. Look at the last volume of laws matured and passed by the Legislature of New York in the short space of 113 working days. Here are 941 printed pages covering every variety of legislation, large and small, from the General Appropriation Bill down to "an act to legalize the official acts of a police justice in the village of Sandy Creek." No wonder that Haggerty bills slip through such a threshing machine and become laws without any certain knowledge on the part of even their authors of their real effect and meaning.

The closing of the great factories of one of the largest cigar-making firms in the country, and the consequent throwing out of work of over 2,000 men, women, and children upon the edge of winter, because the manufacturers have been boycotted for some reason which neither they nor anybody else can clearly understand, is the most startling manifestation we have yet had of this new and alarming force in business affairs. As nearly as can be made out, the trouble in *Straiton & Storm*'s case is due to the quarrel of two rival unions of workmen, one of which has set out to destroy the business of the firm as a means of showing its superiority to the other organization and establishing its power in future to dictate terms to the trade. The inhumanity of the boycotting system could not be more forcibly exemplified than in the reckless disregard of the comfort of thousands of families involved in this heartless performance. Indeed, boycotting is really only the application of dynamite methods to business. The same spirit which endangered the lives of innocent women and children in the Tower of London, in order, by a frightful explosion, to inspire dread in the hearts of the British Government, nonchalantly condemns 2,000 New York workmen to idleness, and the other thousands of people dependent upon them to privation, in order that a union which is as devoid of soul as the traditional corporation may demonstrate its power.

Cincinnati has long suffered like New York from having the machinery of both of its political parties in the hands of gamblers and

traders. The necessity of carrying the State at October elections in order to get the "moral" influence of a victory upon the November elections has induced both parties to spend large sums of money in Cincinnati, with the usual result of completely demoralizing the workers on both sides. The effect, as described last week in some frank and wholesome speeches at the annual dinner of the Cincinnati Commercial Club, has been to throw the city government into the hands of thieves. Whenever either party has nominated a professed reformer for office he has invariably "sold out" to the other party either before or after election. The honest voters of the city have been betrayed in every instance, and have been shown that one party is no more worthy of trust than the other. The conclusion of the speakers is, that the only remedy is the complete separation of the honest voters of the city from all party organizations, in order that they may secure a city government and a judiciary with no party obligations. This is the only remedy for municipal misgovernment, but the main hindrance to its application is the indifference of the honest voters to their own welfare. If they would absolutely refuse to support an unfit man for office, no matter which party had named him, and would support fit men wherever found, there would soon be an improvement in the character of the nominees of all parties.

New Hampshire continues to flounder about in a desperate attempt to extricate her industries from the snarl in which they were involved by the passage of the "valued policy" law. The situation grows worse all the time, and the speeches made by business men at a meeting of the New Hampshire Club in Boston on Wednesday week were almost uniformly discouraging. Thus, ex Governor Cheney said that he had been unable to get more than half insurance on his pulp mills, and the insurance he got was only obtained by placing in the mills appliances for the speedy extinguishment of fires, and thus reducing the risk; and a number of other manufacturers had been unable to do even as well as that. There seems to be a general agreement among business men that the law must speedily be abrogated or modified, but the trouble is that most of the legislators who enacted it seem to feel that they are bound to stand by it, so that there is no assurance that it would be changed if an extra session were to be called. To cap the climax, it has come out that the original introduction of the measure was purely an attempt at a "strike" on the part of the lobby. A leading insurance man told the Club that the foreign companies were plainly notified that the measure would be killed if they would "come down" with a few thousand dollars. They declined to make terms, and the result is a general disturbance of the State's industries.

The Conference of the Congregational Churches in Connecticut at its annual session last week appointed a committee to report to the Conference next year concerning the expediency of suggesting to the Governor the discontinuance of the annual proclamation for a fast day. This action is the recognition of a

change in the relation of the Church to the State in Connecticut which has come about so gradually that few people realize the extent of the revolution. The custom of a gubernatorial proclamation for a fast day throughout the commonwealth is now an anachronism, but it is the survival of a period when such action was a perfectly legitimate manifestation of the Governor's position toward the State. The original agreement adopted by the New Haven Colony in 1639 provided that "church members only shall be free burgesses, and they only shall choose among themselves magistrates and officers to have the power of transacting all public civil affairs of this plantation." This connection between the Church and the State continued intimate throughout the eighteenth century, and even later than 1800 the town as a corporate body in some cases participated formally in the settlement of a pastor over a New England church. The last of these legal bonds of union was severed years ago, and it is absurd that the fiction should be longer maintained even in so meaningless a form as the proclamation of a fast day, which only a small fraction of the population pretends to observe. To be consistent, the Conference should have gone a step further, and suggested the disuse of the Thanksgiving proclamation also. Probably, however, the ministers have observed that the public is much more inclined to feast than to fast, and that even the agnostic does not resent very bitterly a recommendation to eat a particularly good dinner on a certain day. Governor Hoadly, of Ohio, by the way, has taken pains to make clear the distinction between Church and State by omitting all reference to the Deity in his Thanksgiving proclamation, both last year and this, on the express ground, as he explains to an inquirer, that this is "a free country in matters of worship or non-worship," and that he has no right to command the people of the State to worship God on a certain day.

The efforts of our esteemed contemporary, the *Herald*, to save Riel, proved abortive, for he was hanged on Monday morning. Its last resource, an examination of some of the books "on the subject of treason and rebellion" in the British Museum Library by its London correspondent, was no more successful than its numerous editorial articles or the threats of the French sympathizers in Canada. The Canadian Premier must be an iron man to read the *Herald* through every morning, as he undoubtedly does, and yet go on as if he never saw a copy of it. But the truth probably is that he felt, as most unprejudiced observers must, that a man who has stirred up two rebellions, neither of which had the smallest chance of success, ought either to be made head of the political community, or permanently removed from human society. Riel in his first affair in 1869 committed a most foul murder on an unarmed prisoner, came near causing a great deal of bloodshed, and put the Dominion to great expense, and dragged a large number of young men from their homes for two or three months. Yet he was forgiven, and allowed to go about his business. He has now repeated the offence, this time getting the Indians to join him, or, in other

words, letting loose bands of savages on defenseless frontier settlements. They committed one dreadful massacre at Frog Lake, and, under his leadership, engaged in three or four fights with the troops. The general result was that on the Government side 67 men were killed and 119 wounded. The killed were mostly young business men who were serving in the militia. If a man ought ever to be hanged for taking other men's lives and making their homes desolate, Riel certainly deserved his fate. To dignify his operations with the name of war is absurd.

It is not surprising that Mr. Gladstone should try to put the question of disestablishment aside. It is the most serious question which has come into British politics since the passage of the Reform Bill of 1832. Not only will any legislation on the subject rouse extraordinary bitterness of feeling, but require an amount of constructive ability such as, it is safe to say, no man in England is known to possess except Mr. Gladstone, and he is too old to venture on it, and he knows it. The disestablishment of the Irish Church was child's play compared to it. A very large part of the Church property—about \$30,000,000, it is said—has come from gifts in comparatively recent times, and one of the very knotty ethical-legal questions which would arise in the case would be whether the State had any right even to assume the management of this fund. That the Radicals are going to try their hands at the job, however, if they get a chance, appears very clear, and the way the clergy are preparing for the fray is putting their assailants already into a very bad temper.

For example, Archdeacon Denison some weeks ago announced from the platform that "he had known Mr. Gladstone for forty-five years, and would not trust him with a brass farthing." An Essex minister, a Mr. Lefroy, having been asked for the use of the parish schoolroom by Mr. Martin, the Liberal candidate, refused it, because of the "scurrilous, lying, deceitful, and revolutionary teaching contained in most of the speeches of the Radical and Liberal party from Messrs. Gladstone, Chamberlain, and Bright downwards," and he suggests "the tap-room" for Mr. Martin's meeting, as "a more suitable place in which to advance the doctrines of many Radicals (upholders of atheism, dissent, falsehood, and revolution) than a school in which the name of God is honored, and the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ taught to the scholars." It must be remembered that the "dissent" which he here couples with "atheism, falsehood, and revolution," means the religious opinions of the Congregationalists, Methodists, Presbyterians, and Baptists, or, in other words, of the bulk of the middle and working class in England. What admirable campaign documents such letters as these—and there are many of them—furnish to the enemies of the Church, it is needless to say. In fact, they make disestablishment almost certain; and it will not be a peaceable, good-tempered process either, but a ruthless, revengeful one, in which religion itself will share in the odium which these angry persons are bringing on themselves.

SUMMARY OF THE WEEK'S NEWS.

[WEDNESDAY, November 11, to TUESDAY, November 17, 1886, inclusive.]

DOMESTIC.

THE Civil-Service Commission ordered on Thursday that the entire eligible list of candidates for the vacant Brooklyn Weighership should be sent to Collector Hedden, with the disabled soldiers at the head of it. This brought Sterling among the number of possible successful candidates. Commissioner Edgerton has expressed the opinion that the order is not to be regarded as a precedent. He said that there were good reasons why in this particular case it should be done. Late Friday afternoon, Collector Hedden announced that he had selected John W. O'Brien as Weigher, in place of George H. Sterling, suspended. O'Brien obtained the highest grading given to any candidate, is an honorably discharged soldier of the United States, and has had experience as an assistant weigher. The appointment is directly in the line of civil-service reform and was a great disappointment to the spoilsme.

Colonel Trenholm, of the Civil-Service Commission, in conversation recently was emphatic in asserting that any expectations that the reorganized Commission would be governed by partisan considerations were doomed to utter disappointment. In all his consultations with the President he said he had been most impressed with the sincere and earnest purpose which Mr. Cleveland showed to enforce the law strictly and impartially, and it can be regarded as beyond any question that the Commission will with all its power hold up the hands of the President at every step.

It is very probable that the President will recommend to Congress the enactment of a law which will either give the existing courts jurisdiction over all private claims, or will create new courts for that purpose. This was a pet scheme of Attorney-General Garland when he was Senator.

The report that the Secretary of State is one of the movers in a diplomatic project to secure the neutrality of the islands of the Pacific which are not now occupied by European Powers, is officially denied at the State Department. It appears to be a fact that the Hawaiian Minister has been endeavoring to initiate a movement of this kind, and that he has endeavored to secure the active co-operation of this Government; but it is also quite clear that, in the absence of some specific authority from Congress, the State Department will not venture to commit itself in the matter, except possibly to approve recommendations designed to accomplish the desired object, if this can be done without violating international law or interfering in any disputed questions with foreign Powers.

The Treasury Department persists in its efforts to put silver dollars and minor coin into circulation. The officials believe that for some weeks the output will exceed the inflow, but that later the current will be changed.

The annual report of the Lieutenant-General of the Army was made public on Tuesday. At the date of the last consolidated returns the army consisted of 2,154 officers and 24,705 men. General Sheridan summarizes the movements of troops in the various departments during the year, and concludes with this general observation: "The discipline throughout the army is good. I have no recommendations to make, except to increase the number of men in the companies, and to add two more companies and two majors to each regiment of infantry. I most heartily coincide with the remarks of General Schofield on the need of military legislation."

Mr. Pendleton, the United States Minister, has protested to the German Government against the expulsion of the five German-Americans from the island of Foehr.

The National Free-Trade Convention assembled in Chicago on Wednesday, about 200 delegates being present from all parts of the country. David A. Wells, the President, delivered an address, in which he said of the purposes of free-traders: "We intend no revolutionary action. We will not denounce you as spoliators and robbers, even if you do continue to accuse us of being enemies to American industry and corrupted with British gold. We admit the integrity of your motives. We desire to join with you in promoting American industry, in developing American agriculture, arts, manufactures, and mining. We agree with you that the prime object of all our work should be to take such measures as will reduce the cost of production, while yielding to American labor a constantly increasing rate of wages. What we mean by an increasing rate of wages is this: We desire to adopt such a policy as will raise the rate of wages in all the arts of this country in terms of money, and at the same time will give to each unit or dollar of that money a greater purchasing power in each decade than it had in the preceding. We also admit that inasmuch as the war created the necessity for a large increase in the duties on imports, time and discretion should be considered in their method of removal. People who have been taught for long years to use crutches may reasonably ask to be permitted for a little time to use canes."

The Supreme Court of Illinois has rendered a decision in the case of Joseph C. Mackin, convicted of perjury in denying that he received fraudulent ballots, affirming the decision of the lower court. This will send Mackin to the penitentiary for five years.

Mayor Grace has sent to Governor Hill a long list of charges against Excise Commissioners William P. Mitchell, Nicholas Haughton, and John J. Morris for malfeasance in office. The charges are accompanied by specifications founded on evidence lately produced before the Senate Investigating Committee. Commissioners Mitchell and Haughton are accused of licensing improper places, and all three Commissioners are charged with licensing many bar-rooms connected with theatres.

The official plurality for Foraker for Governor of Ohio is 18,197.

The directors of the Boston *Post* on Thursday declined the offer of Carl Schurz for a controlling interest in the paper, and arrangements were made to provide fresh capital and continue the *Post* as a Democratic organ.

A great fire in Galveston, Texas, on Friday destroyed about sixty blocks of houses, in all about 700 residences, many of them among the finest in the city. Hundreds of people were made homeless. The firemen were helpless, a great gale prevailing at the time. The loss is about \$2,000,000.

The funeral services of John McCullough, the actor, were held in Philadelphia on Thursday. Many distinguished actors were present.

Charles J. Osborn, for many years well known in Wall Street, died on Wednesday in this city at the age of forty-eight. He left a fortune estimated at \$5,000,000.

Ex-Senator Wm. Sharon, of California, died on Friday afternoon. He was of Quaker descent, and spent his younger days in Ohio, where he was graduated from Athens College. He was admitted to the bar in Missouri in 1845. He went to California in 1849, made a small fortune in real estate and lost it. He was made the agent of the Bank of California at Virginia City, Nev., and made an immense fortune out of the mines there. He was elected to the United States Senate in 1874.

Horace B. Clafin, the head of the great wholesale dry-goods house of H. B. Clafin & Co., died at his country seat in Fordham late on Saturday afternoon. He had a stroke of paralysis while entertaining some guests at dinner on Thursday evening. Mr. Clafin was born on December 18, 1811, in Milford, Mass., where his father kept a country store. Enter-

ing his father's business when he reached his majority, he caused a discontinuance of the sale of liquor, which had formed part of the trade. Soon removing to Worcester, Mass., he started there with a partner in the dry-goods business, and was successful. In 1843 he removed to this city, and established the dry-goods house of Bulkley & Clafin in Cedar Street. This was succeeded by the firms of Clafin, Mellen & Co. and H. B. Clafin & Co. An immense business was done by the last two houses, and, although twice embarrassed in times of general financial disaster, Mr. Clafin tide over all difficulties, and accumulated a large fortune. He was very liberal, and also unostentatious in his gifts to charitable objects. For many years he had been one of the most prominent members of Plymouth Church, and he was also connected with various benevolent institutions and business corporations.

Dr. Gustav Seyffarth, the learned German archaeologist, died on Tuesday in this city in his eighty-ninth year. Dr. Seyffarth was born in Saxony, and was educated in Leipsic, where he became Professor of Archaeology at the early age of thirty. He turned his attention to Egyptian studies, and disputed with Champollion the authorship of the now accepted theory of hieroglyphics. In 1855 he came to the United States and was for six years a professor in the Lutheran Seminary of St. Louis. In 1857 he published in this city a 'Summary of Recent Discoveries in Biblical Chronology, Universal History, and Egyptian Archaeology' in English and German. He was a constant contributor to European and American periodicals.

FOREIGN.

The Balkan Conference agreed on Wednesday that the basis of its deliberations should be the restoration of the *status quo ante* in Rumeia. No details were adopted.

Believing that the final struggle of the Turkish empire for existence is approaching, Lord Salisbury has telegraphed to Mr. White, the British representative at Constantinople, to assure the Porte that England will do her utmost to preserve the integrity of Turkey.

It was officially announced from Belgrade, Servia, early Saturday morning that the Bulgarians had attacked the Servians at Vlasina, and King Milan accepted the act as a declaration of war. Peace therefore ended at 6 A. M. Saturday. King Milan assumed command of the Servian army at once, and advanced into Bulgaria. The army marched in three divisions on Sofia. General Horvatovich commands the left wing, General Leshyanin the right, and King Milan the centre. The whole force is expected to concentrate at Sofia on November 22. The roads are covered with snow, retarding the progress of the army. A sharp fight occurred on Saturday between the advance guards of the Servian and Bulgarian armies on the road between Trn and Vlasina. The Bulgarians retired. Intense excitement prevailed at Sofia. Active preparations were made to defend the city. The total available army of Servia, including the Landsturm or third levy, is about 170,000. The combined forces of Bulgaria and Eastern Rumeia are about 110,000. Probably not half of these numbers are now in the field.

Six battalions of Servian infantry, two battalions of artillery, and two squadrons of cavalry on Sunday attacked two battalions of regular and irregular Bulgarian troops. The Bulgarians lost thirty-four killed and wounded. Servian troops have occupied Tzari-Brod, sustaining small loss. Fifty Bulgarians were captured. Topalovitch, with the Morava Division, is operating against Trn. There was a rumor current on Sunday that it had been captured. Colonel Mitchkovitch and Benetzki lead the advance on the Dragoman Pass. General Yovanovitch is in command of the Danube Division, which is held as a reserve force at Bela Palank. Diuknitch is leading the Timok Division against Belgradjik. Each division consists of 2,000 men. Prince Alexander, of

Bulgaria, arrived at Sofia on Sunday morning, and was greeted with great enthusiasm. Bulgaria has decided to remain on the defensive.

An official report from Colonel Benetzki on Monday said: "After a brilliant charge the Servians carried four Bulgarian redoubts beyond Tzari-Brod. Colonel Diuknitch, with the Timok division, has taken Kiela. The Servian troops continue advancing everywhere, and have captured 400 Bulgarian prisoners. The Servians have lost 200 wounded and 50 killed. A great battle is now being fought in the direction of Dragoman."

Turkey on Monday refused to interfere between Servia and Bulgaria.

The Bulgarians on Monday evacuated their fortified position at Dragoman, which the Servians attacked on Sunday.

General Topalovitch, with the Morava division, on Tuesday had a desperate battle with the Bulgarians at Trn, and the latter were totally defeated. The Servians fought with great gallantry and captured two guns and many prisoners. Three battalions of Bulgarians surrendered. A battalion of Bulgarian volunteers stationed at a point on the Timok River capitulated without firing a gun to Colonel Diuknitch, commanding the Servian Timok Division.

The Servian division marching on Widdin gave battle on Tuesday to the Bulgarians near Widdin, and inflicted upon them a crushing defeat. The loss was heavy on both sides. The Servians captured 1,000 prisoners. The headquarters of the Servian army has been fixed at Tzari-Brod.

The invasion of Macedonia by the Greek army is imminent.

The unanimous opinion of both the English press and the public condemns King Milan in the severest terms, not so much for the actual Servo-Bulgarian troubles themselves as because, in the *Standard's* words, "the eager eyes of Russia and Austria are peering from behind."

M. Brisson, the French Premier, made a statement on Monday in the Chamber of Deputies respecting the policy of the Government. It was received very coldly by the members, especially an allusion to the refusal of the Government to grant a general amnesty to political prisoners. A Cabinet crisis is probable. The statement indicated a probable abandonment of the Tonquin and Madagascar campaigns.

Mr. Gladstone formally opened the Midlothian campaign with a speech at Edinburgh on Wednesday. He spoke about eighty minutes. When he appeared on the platform the audience rose as one man with such a shout as fairly took him aback for the moment by its loudness and suddenness. He recovered at once and bowed to all sides. When he said he approached "a graver question," there was instantly an eager cry, and the hush following showed that the audience saw a reference to the burning question of disestablishment. He distinguished throughout between the churches of Scotland and England, and said that the former question was for the Scotch people. In the whole speech there was not a single definite statement as to whether he approves disestablishment or not. The following came nearest it, and frankly admits his present purpose: "I am far from saying that I were a man twenty years younger, if I could stand before you at a future election, and if at a future election circumstances were ripe for taking a matter of this kind in hand on one side or on the other—I am far from saying that I should then urge you not to give it the first place in your thoughts. But, gentlemen, I am now laboring with all my heart for the unity of the Liberal party." In conclusion he declared the question was a phantom light to lure the Liberals from the path of duty. The Scotch Liberal papers generally give the speech faint praise or condemn it.

Mr. Gladstone delivered another speech in Edinburgh on Wednesday. He said it was

impossible for Parliament to deal with the Irish question satisfactorily, except by the action of a party powerful enough to act independently of the Irish vote. According to Tory as well as Liberal reports, such a party in the coming Parliament can only be the Liberal party.

Mr. Gladstone delivered the second regular speech of his Midlothian campaign at West Calder on Tuesday. He said: "I have heard complaints since the passage of the Redistribution Act that in Scotland the increase in the representation in Parliament is inadequate. This is not my fault. The whole Tory party opposed the proposal, but I was still able to secure a resemblance to what, in my opinion, should be the Scotch proportion. Dealing now with local administration, I can say that if the Scotch people in the future make a demand for extended measures for local government, the demand will be duly considered." Referring to the Irish question, Mr. Gladstone said: "Mr. Parnell has conveyed to me, through the confidential medium of the newspapers, a suggestion that I had better frame a plan for the local government of Ireland. I propose now to reply to Mr. Parnell in an equally confidential manner. Perhaps you gentlemen won't mention it. But my reasons for not complying with Mr. Parnell's request are that, though Ireland wishes and deserves respectful and favorable attention, yet until the elections the Irish wishes are constitutionally unknown. I believe Mr. Parnell has taken me for a person wanting in experience in public life or one who has not profited by experience, if he imagines me rash enough to make myself a voluntary physician for the people of Ireland instead of those authorized doctors she sends to the House of Commons. It would seriously damage any proposal hatched in my mind if the Irish constitutional question should arise. If a proposal be made it can only be effectively made by the Government, although the Government are rather silent on the subject, and appear disinclined to use language calculated to render less easy their relations with the party to whom they owe much through the transactions of the last Parliament. If the present Government continues, every Minister of the Opposition will require to hear their views before expressing his own. Thus it is impossible to accede to Mr. Parnell's kind invitation."

A large crowd of factory girls on Thursday mobbed Mr. Charles Edward Lewis, the Conservative member of Parliament for Londonderry, Ireland, and treated him in a most shameful manner.

The terms of settlement of the Adams-Coleridge case have been made public in London. Some person of eminence is to decide whether compensation shall be paid to Mr. Adams, and if so, what amount. Mr. Bernard Coleridge, while unreservedly withdrawing the charges made, states most positively that he made them in good faith. Mr. Adams is happy frankly to accept such assurances. Lord Coleridge withdraws any language which may be construed as casting imputations upon his character or motives. He is perfectly willing to make Mrs. Adams a pension of £600 a year.

Mr. Stead is now in prison garb at the Coldbath Fields Prison. His term will expire on January 19.

Lord Dufferin, Viceroy of India, on Thursday ordered General Prendergast, Commander of the Burmah expeditionary force, to invade Burmah forthwith and proceed with all haste to capture Mandalay. The British forces crossed the frontier immediately.

Advices from Calcutta state that King Theebaw has ordered that all Englishmen in Burmah be exterminated. King Theebaw has issued a proclamation refusing to accept "the absurd proposals of the Indian Government," and therefore declaring war. He promises to lead his troops personally, and calls upon his subjects to fight for the defence of their country and their religion. Europeans

are not to be molested until the invaders cross the frontier, when all are to be slain. Many Europeans are leaving Mandalay unhindered.

King Theebaw's man-of-war has been captured. Only one British officer was wounded. A slight skirmish has taken place between a small body of British troops and Burmese frontier guards. The latter fled.

Ruiz Zorrilla, the Spanish Radical, writes to the *London Standard* denying that he instigated the Cartagena revolt. He recounts his long political services to Spain, and declares that he has never been a *zemagogue*. His programme now is the same as before—progress as opposed to reaction, and conservatism as opposed to anarchy. He is ready to return to Spain when the liberties cherished by honest men are restored.

The Socialist Lieske, who was convicted on July 1 of the murder of Police-Counselor Rumpf at Frankfort, Germany, on the night of January 13 last, was on Tuesday beheaded. He protested to the last that he was innocent of the crime, and behaved composedly.

Vesuvius is again in a state of eruption. The lava is streaming down the west side of the mountain, and some alarm is expressed.

It became definitely known on Saturday that Riel would surely be hanged at Regina on Monday. Intense excitement prevailed among the French-Canadian population, and threats were made by their representatives in Parliament to withdraw their support from Sir John Macdonald.

The execution took place on Monday morning, at 8:33 o'clock. He acted with remarkable firmness on the scaffold, but made no speech, at the earnest request of his priests. Only twenty people were present. Riel was forty-one years of age, was the son of an intrepid hunter who married a squaw, and was educated at St. Mary's College, Montreal. In 1869 he led the first revolt of the Metis, which General Wolseley repressed. He acted as a professor in a Montana Jesuit college for some time. In the fall of 1884 he again returned to the Northwest, and, failing to get the Government to accept his offer to leave the country for \$5,000, he fomented the second rising, for which he has paid the penalty.

The French Canadians were greatly excited over Riel's fate, and hoped until the last moment that he would again be reprieved. When it was announced on Monday that the execution had taken place, the French quarter in Montreal displayed symbols of mourning everywhere. Threats of revenge were heard on all sides; students paraded the streets cheering for Riel, and mass meetings were called for the evening.

The excitement in Montreal over the hanging of Riel culminated on Monday night in a great procession of 12,000 French Canadians carrying French flags and transparencies. They marched down St. Lawrence Street with effigies of the Cabinet Ministers mounted on a wagon. Arriving at the Champ-de-Mars, the effigies of J. A. Chapleau and Sir Hector Langevin were hanged and burned. The mob then marched to Victoria Square, and one of them, climbing up on the statue of the Queen, lowered a noose to the crowd. This was placed around the neck of Sir John A. Macdonald's effigy, which was pulled up. Oil was then sprinkled over the figure, and, a light being put to it, the figure and statue were soon enveloped in a cloud of smoke and flame. A large body of police found their way within a few feet of the statue but were afraid to interfere. The mob then marched to Colonel Ouimet's house, and hanged his effigy to a tree opposite. Several places were stoned and Protestant churches were hissed. The disorders subsided on Tuesday. There was considerable excitement in other Canadian cities.

The death sentence passed on those recently convicted of murder in connection with the Northwest rebellion will be commuted in several cases. The others will be carried into effect on the date fixed, November 27th.

WAR IN THE BALKANS.

SERVIA has declared war against Bulgaria, and begun hostile movements. Her army, in three divisions, is entering the territory of the Principality. The left, or northern, wing, crossing the Timok, at Bregova, near its mouth in the Danube, is operating in the direction of Widin. The centre, under King Milan in person, advances on the road from Nish to Vratza. The right wing has entered Bulgaria at Tzari-Brod, and occupied the defile of Dragoman, on the direct road to its apparent objective point, the capital, Sofia, and has been successful in a desperate engagement before Trn. Unprepared and outnumbered, the Bulgarians retire before the invader; but Prince Alexander calls his people to arms, and troops are gathered, and cannon mounted, at Sofia. Milan, in his declaration of war, assigns various flimsy reasons for his aggression; Alexander, in his appeal, calls his foe "treacherous and cowardly."

If not treacherous, Servia's onslaught on the Bulgarians is certainly more wantonly* unprovoked and more unjustifiable than were even the atrocities committed on that people by the Turks, a year before the outbreak of the great war of 1877. When the Moslems drenched with blood the soil of what is now—or was lately—Eastern Rumelia, their Christian subjects of Servia, Bosnia, and Herzegovina were up in arms against them, the Russians were preparing to invade and destroy the Ottoman Empire, and the Bulgarians conspiring to rise and join in the crusade. Fanaticism and fear maddened the Turks to do the bloody work which was to cost them most of their dependencies in the Balkan peninsula. The Servians have no such excuse for lighting the torch of war. They do it against men of their own Slavic race and Christian faith and Greek creed, their fellow-sufferers for centuries under the Turkish yoke—a people whose surpassing sufferings, in fact, brought on that final deliverance of Servia herself which Milan and his generals, aided by bands of volunteers from Russia and the desperate struggles of the Montenegrins and Herzegovinians, vainly endeavored to achieve in 1876. The Czar's Bulgarian campaign made Servia independent, and created the semi-independent big Bulgaria of the treaty of San Stefano. Beaconsfield, Andrássy, and Bismarck substituted for that creation at the Berlin Congress the collectively smaller and separately governed Bulgaria and Eastern Rumelia of the last seven years. The latter province was less than semi-independent. Its people rose two months ago, and proclaimed their union with their brethren north of the dividing Balkan range. Prince Alexander accepts the revolutionary call, and thus infringes upon the rights of his suzerain, the Sultan. But it is not the Sultan who draws the sword to vindicate his rights and save his possessions. It is Servia, neither robbed nor threatened nor insulted, but apprehensive lest her neighbor's aggrandizement prevent her in future from annexing a coveted adjoining part of the still Turkish territory, which was her own before the fatal battle of Kosovo in 1389. She proclaims the union of North and South Bulgaria a "disturbance of the balance of power in the Balkans," which she must prevent by force of

arms, and rushes her army madly into the mountains.

King Milan's forces are more numerous and better organized, armed, and trained than those of the invaded countries, whose national autonomy is ten times younger than that of Servia. In population, however, the united Bulgarian State is much superior, containing about 3,000,000 to Servia's 2,000,000. Its defensive attitude and the opening of winter also offer considerable advantages. But it is not the relative strength and position of these two combatants that will decide the contest. It opens while an ambassadorial conference of the great European Powers, assembled for the very purpose of settling this new "Eastern question," is holding its sittings in Constantinople, and while Turkey, Austria-Hungary, and Russia are beginning to concentrate troops for an arbitrament of war. "The fact that Servia has declared war against Bulgaria will not alter the prospects of the Balkan Conference," says Prince Bismarck's semi-official organ, the *North German Gazette*, laconically and coolly. But what those prospects are, and what is likely to follow if the Conference fails to result in a European concert, Prince Bismarck himself is probably unable to tell.

Incalculable passions and interests, personal as well as national, have entered largely into the complications. Prince Alexander will risk everything, from youthful ambition. Milan is driven on by the perplexities of his situation, arising from the dissatisfaction of his people with his pro-Austrian policy, and the plottings of a pretender to his throne, Peter Karageorgevitch. Czar Alexander III. has evidently been made ungovernably angry by his Bulgarian namesake's stubborn resistance to Russian imperial directions, and skilful use, for his own purposes, of schemes hatched by Muscovite workers for different if not opposite objects. The Czar's subjects, on the other hand, are equally ardent in their manifestations of sympathy with the Bulgarian revolution, which they deem a step in the right Panslavic direction. Milan is denounced by the Russian press as a Slavic renegade and fratricidal tyrant. *Per contra*, the Hungarians, who, in 1876, exulted at the news of every Servian defeat at the hands of the Pashas, now—from the same almost blind animosity toward movements favored by the Panslavists—give their loudest cheers to the faithless Slav Prince, forgetting that the Czar, too, wishes him success. The Greeks burn with desire to mingle in the fray on the anti-Bulgarian side, in order to seize Macedonia. Turkey waits for a favorable opportunity to seize the Balkan passes and recover some power, in alliance with somebody. Her former friends, the Tory statesmen of England, stand now on the side of Bulgaria, on account of the British elections to come, and France and Italy are likely to throw their diplomatic influence into the same scale. At the moment, the decision still rests with the three Emperors—but is the *entente cordiale* of Skieriewice still alive?

THE TRANSFORMATION OF THE COLLEGE.

The recent announcement that President Porter, of Yale College, will resign his position at

the close of the present educational year has provoked a lively discussion regarding the succession. A host of candidates have already been suggested, and many new names will be presented during the months still to elapse before a decision is reached. Without at present entering upon the personal question, it is well to point out the opposing principles which contend for mastery in the choice of a new President.

The American college in its origin was essentially a church institution. When the people of the Connecticut colony began to talk about an institution of learning, it was expressly proposed that they should found a "school of the Church," by contributions from the several Congregational churches. The sole object, indeed, was to provide a learned ministry, that every church might have "a scholar to its minister." Even when, years later, the scope of the institution was somewhat broadened, its object was still declared to be "the upholding and propagating of the Christian Protestant religion, by a succession of learned and orthodox men," their development into supporters of "orthodoxy" being thus made an end of their education equally with their mastery of knowledge. The control of the College was vested in a body of "orthodox" clergymen of the colony, "orthodox" in all these cases being equivalent to supporters of the Congregational Church, since there were at that time no other ministers of the Gospel in the region. This original body was empowered to fill vacancies among the trustees from the same class of the community, the purpose (which has been consistently carried out) being to keep the government of the institution in the hands of the Congregational clergy of Connecticut. Church influence was scarcely less prominent in the early history of Harvard. The act of 1642 constituted a number of the "teaching elders" trustees, and the State Constitution of 1780 made "the ministers of the Congregational churches in the towns of Cambridge, Watertown, Charlestown, Boston, Roxbury, and Dorchester" overseers in connection with the Governor, Lieutenant-Governor, members of the Council, and State Senators, while it was not until 1843 that a clergyman of any denomination other than Congregational became eligible to a place in the Board. In its early period "the College," according to President Quincy, "was conducted as a theological institution, having religion for its basis and chief object."

The college in this country was thus originally a school for the training of young men to become ministers of what was virtually the Established Church. In fact, in the early days the education of a youth almost implied his preparation for the ministry. So subordinate were the other "learned professions" that during the first half century of Yale College only thirty of its graduates became physicians, because medical service in New England was mainly supplied by the clergy. A graduate of the class of 1716 became involved in trouble with his church at Northfield, Mass., because he gave so much of his time to the healing of bodily rather than spiritual disease; and the inventory of his effects mentions, besides the religious library, a "surgeon's pocket case of

instruments," "two lancets," and other like appliances. A full half of all the graduates from Yale during the first fifty years of its existence became Congregational clergymen, and the proportion was even larger at Harvard in its early history.

Under such circumstances, the construction of a college curriculum was a very simple matter. The college was really only a theological seminary, and a Board of clerical Trustees were merely called upon to decide what were the studies best calculated to fit young men for the ministry. It was natural and proper enough that they should proceed upon the theory that, the end being to make a minister of the student, all students should pursue the same course. Hebrew and theology thus became features of the curriculum as naturally as Latin and Greek, and every student was as much bound to take the former as the latter.

The ancient theory of the college was thus that of an institution to turn out "orthodox" ministers. The modern theory makes it an institution to ground young men in the elements of an education which shall fit them for any pursuit. The ancient theory is exemplified in the foundation of Yale; the modern in the present management of Harvard. The Cambridge student has scarcely entered the institution before he is called upon to decide for himself what course of study he will pursue. Less than half of the studies of the Freshman year are prescribed for the whole class, and after the Freshman year everything is elective, with the exception of a few exercises in English composition. This is the result of a steady growth in the permission of choice, which began with the experiment of allowing options in modern languages in 1825, proceeded to the establishment of electives for Seniors and Juniors in 1846, extended the system to Sophomores in 1867, and enlarged it to comprehend Freshmen in 1884. No fewer than 189 courses, divided among twenty departments, are now offered the student, instead of the one invariable system originally prescribed for all. The only relic of the attempt to make him as "orthodox" as "learned," is the compulsion to attend chapel prayers; but even as to this there is so much latitude that the regulation cannot much longer be maintained. In short, instead of being run through a mill with cogs designed to grind out a clergyman, or at the very least an "orthodox" believer, he is treated as a young man who, at nineteen (the average age of admission to Harvard), is qualified, and should be made, to choose how he will prepare himself for what he plans to make his life work. How well the system works appears very clearly from the showing made by Professor Palmer, himself originally a disbeliever in the elective principle, in his very valuable article in the November number of the *Andover Review* upon "The New Education."

Yale College has greatly modified its course, and has given considerable scope to the elective principle; but it has clung pretty stoutly to the original theory of its establishment. It is still an institution practically governed by a few clergymen of a single denomination in a single State. It is still insisted by the believers in the old theory that the first requisite for a President is that he shall be a clergyman of the

"orthodox" church. The conservative party may carry their point in the election of a new President, but they will only postpone the inevitable. A great modern college cannot be permanently conducted upon the same lines as a colonial divinity school.

ENGLISH "SENSATIONAL JOURNALISM."

THE full text of the evidence on the trial of the editor of the *Pall Mall Gazette* and others, for abduction has reached this country, and it furnishes altogether a most singular and interesting chapter in the history of the newspaper press. The first thing that strikes one on reading it is the extent to which Stead, the editor, was probably indebted for the success of his venture to the deep interest taken by the English people in all the doings of the aristocracy. The "society papers" live on this feeling, and some make a good deal of money out of it. Stead appealed to it in the strongest way when he announced that he had, in his explorations in vicious resorts, come on the track of noblemen and gentlemen of the highest position, and even of "princes of the blood." This touched the imagination not only of all those who like the scandals of high life and revel in the "secret memoirs" of dissolute courts, but of the rising democrats all over England who are now girding up their loins for the overthrow of "caste" and the destruction of privileges. For this reason, if for no other, no such stroke of journalistic enterprise could have been made in this country. We have no class here, except clergymen, whose position makes their vices highly sensational material for newspapers, and no editor would be believed who announced that he was going to lay bare the moral rottenness of the clerical profession. Those of our journalists who try in any degree to walk in Stead's paths, have to rely almost wholly on the indecency of their narrative to make it sell, and this alone repels respectable people at the outset, and soon palls on the others.

It appears also from the evidence that Stead, who was a new arrival in London and has no great gifts as a writer, had no pecuniary interest in the *Gazette*, was determined to make himself valuable to the proprietors by working the sensational vein, and transformed the paper from the outset. He got up various small sensations, and then one great one about the condition of the navy, and finally took up the trade in young girls, which was known to be carried on to a greater or less extent between England and the Continent, owing largely to defects in the English law. Out of this he determined to make something. He said on the trial that the question had interested and occupied him for years, but he produced no proof of it. His general allegations as to the phenomena of London vice were all to be found in the evidence taken before the Lords' Committee in 1883. What he undertook to do was to supply proof, and expose individual offenders. His first article led people to suppose that he had really accomplished this—that is, that by a series of elaborate investigations, conducted with extraordinary skill and care, and at great expense, he had laid bare the whole secret of

the trade; could tell people where young girls were "kept in stock," who purchased them, and who took orders for them, and by what means their abduction was kept secret from the police and the public. All this was of course highly important if true, and the way in which he announced it raised public curiosity to the fever point. His management of this part of the sensation was a masterpiece of skill. He put every class of the community, high and low, virtuous and vicious, on the tiptoe of expectation. He caused the office of the paper to be surrounded by vast crowds, who were ready to purchase the paper at any price. The editions of it that were sold surpassed in size anything known in periodical literature. The presses were kept going night and day for weeks. The proprietors, who had only put \$2,000 into the "investigation," must have been delighted by the results of their venture, although they employed another man to revise Stead's articles and remove some of the nastiness. Stead himself rose suddenly into that most delightful kind of fame in which both the good and the bad regard a man with envy and admiration—that is to say, he had ingratiated himself with archbishops and philanthropic bodies by a performance which the venders of obscene literature all over London would have given their eyes to have thought of.

After all this, the breakdown of his case in court could not but be highly dramatic. The case rested almost wholly on the evidence of two persons, himself and a woman named Jarrett, an old and worn-out procress. The ease with which he was deceived—for deceived he undoubtedly was—would be remarkable if a turn for the sensational were not nearly always accompanied by an eager credulity. The woman Jarrett seems to have exhausted all the means of livelihood offered by vice, and to have determined to fall back, at least for a few months, on penitence. She accordingly went to Mrs. Josephine Butler in the character of a Magdalene, and was taken up by that excellent lady with great avidity, as an extraordinarily bad case. The fallen women with whom charitable people like Mrs. Butler have to deal are usually young and not very far gone in iniquity. It is rare that old offenders, like Jarrett, fall into their hands, and Jarrett appears to have made an unusually strong impression, and played the part of an eleventh-hour sinner in a "Home" with much skill. When Stead came to Mrs. Butler, therefore, to look for an expert to aid him in his investigations, she at once recommended Jarrett, but begged Stead to be careful in questioning her, so as not to torture her too much with the awful reminiscences of her past life. It was Jarrett, therefore, who was to furnish proof of the way young girls were "kept in stock" and sold by their parents to wicked aristocrats, and spirited away. To make a long story short, she apparently knew no more about the matter than Stead himself. She took his money, went to a decent family and got them to let her have their daughter for respectable domestic service, delivered the girl to him, and told him a pack of lies. In court she acknowledged her falsehoods, threw off the penitent's mask,

and was saucy to the Attorney-General and the Judge, and poor Stead had to acknowledge that she had deceived him, and that many of the things which he had vouched for as within his "personal knowledge" rested solely on Jarrett's word. One wicked girl, who had tried to sell her little sister, of whom he gave a doleful account in the *Gazette*, he confessed he had searched for in vain. On no trace of her had he ever lighted.

The accounts of the bad noblemen, and the princesses of the blood, who were engaged in this infamous traffic, he seems to have got wholly from inmates of brothels, when treating them to champagne. Of course they saw what he was after, and appear to have "stuffed" him to his heart's content. Not one particle of other proof was he able to produce. The witnesses whom he called, besides Jarrett, were intended simply to show his good faith and the purity of his motives. His humiliation in court would in fact have been most pitiable if his articles in the *Gazette* could have been produced. The jury were confined to the consideration of the Armstrong case, however, and therefore could not see the full extent of the man's folly. The Armstrong case was very important from the fact that it has proved the means of exposing Stead's absurd credulity, and yet, had he been only a little more cautious, the trial would never have taken place, and he would now be vaporizing away, as the holder of the most awful secrets about English society. It was his desire to furnish a practical demonstration that brought him within the meshes of the law, and yet he might have kept his hold on his public without attempting anything of the kind. When once he got himself and his collaborators under the cold eye of a judge and cross-examining counsel, the wonderful stories which so roused the bishops and the philanthropic ladies, and filled cynical foreign observers of English society with glee, were instantly dissolved into nothingness.

We speak of his credulity as absurd because it appears to have been so great as to relieve him from the charge which we have ourselves several times made against him—of being a merely mercenary concocter of sensations. On the trial he appears to have excited pity rather than disgust, and consequently his treatment in jail as a common malefactor has caused enough indignation to make the Government put him among the first-class misdemeanants. But his career as a sensational editor may fairly be considered over.

His failure in this field shows how unfamiliar it is in England. No American editor of the *Stead* school would ever have attempted so much, with such slender materials, and, moreover, never could have accomplished so much, owing to the greater wariness of the public. The American speculator would have cautiously put Jarrett's stories into the form of an interview, and let it go for what it was worth. He would have left it as highly spiced as possible, he would have kept away from the archbishops and the philanthropists, and, far from announcing himself as the apostle of a great reform, would have devoted all his energies to selling large editions during the first day or two of the excitement.

PAUPERISM IN THE GERMAN UNIVERSITIES.

UNDER this title a correspondent of the *Revue Internationale de l'Enseignement* for October 15 has written an article of unusual interest. The writer is a German, or at least gives himself out for one; and the criticism is not the malignant fault-finding of an enemy, but the close scrutiny of a friend who thinks that the recognition of an evil is the first step to a remedy, and who does not rest satisfied with that first step. The questions which he raises are not yet burning questions with us, although the "seed of fire" shows itself here and there in our educational systems, and people have begun to ask about the limits of State aids. It is no secret that higher education needs endowment. No considerable university or college can live by the fees of its students, and in the best equipped institutions of learning every student is in debt to the foundation for the necessary difference between the price and the cost of tuition. This is legitimate; but it is a much nicer question how far aid should be extended to those who are too poor to meet the other expenses of university life. It is a question that the churches have settled for themselves long ago, and the ministry of the Word is largely recruited from the beneficiaries of the theological seminaries. Every now and then some religious paper is assailed by queries on the part of some dissatisfied person, who thinks that the whole system of beneficiary education is wrong, and who is rash enough to maintain that the clerical profession would stand higher, would wield more influence, and, which is not to be despised, would command more ample emoluments, if it were put on precisely the same footing with the other learned professions. Every such malapert inquirer has been silenced almost as soon as he had formulated his views, if they may be called views. The beneficiary class has furnished the lights of the profession, and the future soldier of the cross is compared with the cadet at West Point, the cadet at Annapolis, who are educated by the nation to defend the nation. The thought of obligation is peremptorily rebuked. The young man who devotes himself to a sacred calling which holds out so few worldly prizes to its followers, has thereby earned his support for the six or seven years necessary for collegiate and theological training. It is true that every one who enters any other profession goes in for the big prizes, and perhaps the city church, which corresponds to the marshal's baton of the French soldier, may tower high in the day-dreams of most young theological students; but this is a matter for the churches to settle, and, as has been said, they have settled it—and the only reason theological education has been brought in here is, that the clerical profession is the only one in which systematic aid is given in this country.

In Germany every one knows that a greater or less proportion of the university students receive aid from certain endowments, and some of the smaller universities are fabled to have so many bursaries at command that the authorities are only too glad to find students on whom to bestow them. But, according to the correspondent of the *Revue*, the larger universities are invaded by an ever increasing mass of destitute students, and the evil has gained such proportions that, delicate as are the social questions involved, something must be said, something, if possible, must be done. In the course of the same week one student petitioned the municipal authorities of Berlin to be put on the night-gang of street-sweepers in order that he might not interrupt his attendance on lectures, and a student at the University of Vienna was sent out of town as a vagrant without profession and without visible means of support. These instances, which the correspondent

puts in full relief at the beginning of his article, do not stir any very deep emotion. Occupation is very much a matter of taste, and the position of a street-sweeper has a certain fascination that is denied to that of a waiter in a hotel. In every American college, men can be found who provide for their daily wants by their daily toil while pursuing their academic studies, and nowhere are men in this position treated with more respect than here. But work is not pauperism, and it is pauperism that we have to consider—the revival on a grand scale of the order of begging-students, known to every one who has looked into the history of the Middle Ages.

The greatest contingent of this army of unfortunate, says our informant, is naturally furnished by the provinces. The richly endowed schools of Berlin and Vienna have powerful attractions for all young men who desire to devote themselves to higher studies, not to mention the many resources of these great capitals in the way of general culture. Besides, students of this class hope to find more ready means of support in the great cities, in which many benevolent institutions have been founded for the relief of needy students. Berlin presents fewer advantages in this respect than her venerable Viennese sister, enriched as she has been by legacies ever since the foundation in 1363. In 1874 Vienna disposed of 288 bursaries. Then there are mutual-aid societies formed by the students of each Faculty—societies which grant their members regular assistance in money, or help them to defray the expenses of examinations. Besides these unions composed of students, there are several private benevolent institutions, each with its own sphere: there are the *Rudolphinum* and the *Asylverein*, which take care of seventy students of the Polytechnic School and twenty-two students of the University. The Committee for Students' Refectories issues annually ten thousand tickets for meals, to say nothing of similar provision for Israelitish students. The Sick Students' Relief Association provides beds for students in the section of the hospital reserved for that class, and sends annually a large number to health resorts. Analogous institutions are developing rapidly in Berlin, and are assuming vast proportions in that great city, the growth of which strikes even the Western imagination with wonder.

The heart of the philanthropist may rejoice at this multiplication of benevolent agencies, but the trouble is that the supply only serves to increase the demand, and the class of pauper students is growing out of all proportion to the population. And here the correspondent of the *Revue* touches the weak spot; but touching the weak spot only hurts and does not help. Many of these pauper students are absolutely without any vocation for higher studies. This is also true of the well-to-do; but the well-to-do can take care of themselves, while the poor student has to make his way by his studies, and the question comes up: Is it well to attract, by systematic benevolence, a host of mediocrities to engage in studies which demand a certain amount of talent to begin with and an average of culture that is incompatible with penury?

The elevation of the masses is not a potent cry in America, because the masses are already elevated; perhaps, as the struggle for existence becomes harder, we shall recognize more distinctly the stratification of society for which thus far we are mainly indebted to the insight of the local editor. In Europe it is a cry that cannot be neglected, and any attempt to find fault with any organization for furthering the rise of the so-called "lower order" is apt to excite the bitterest animosities, and the correspondent of the *Revue* is evidently a little afraid of his thesis. Still, he maintains that all this mass of pauper students

cannot be actuated by ideal aspirations, by a disinterested love of science; that there is vanity at work, and, what is worse, a secret hope—too often illusory—of making an easy and comfortable living. Many of these unfortunate aspirants succumb physically in the struggle; many of them give up their hope of a career, and subside into the dreary work of mechanical instruction. American students are usually little concerned in the future of their German fellow-students outside of the narrow circle of their special friends; but if one could see what becomes of the crowds that throng the more popular lecture rooms, it would be a sad procession of failures. At the distance of ten, twenty, thirty years, how many are there who have done anything for the science to which they devoted their early vigor and enthusiasm?

But these are not novel reflections, and it is time to turn to the second point of view. Apart, then, from the miserable failures which show how hazardous such a career is, we have to consider the interests of science which are compromised by this pauperism. It appears that there are more poor students at Vienna than elsewhere, and that some of the Viennese professors have for several years deliberated very gravely about the injury done to the reputation of the University by the swarms of young men who come up (notably from Galicia and Hungary) to pursue their medical studies while making their living by private lessons, by peddling matches, by small employments in connection with the exchange, the post-office, the telegraph. An American messenger-boy might, indeed, find time to read many a medical book on his leisurely way; but one wonders how that could be managed among a less good-humored people than the Americans—decidedly the most good-humored people on earth. One of the employments in vogue among these students—a curious survival which, however, is now dying out—is the profession of itinerant musician; and of course this calling cannot be followed to advantage at the small seats of learning such as Graetz and Innspruck. Nothing will serve but Vienna. And in this infatuation these unfortunates are confirmed by the public at large, by the railway companies, and, it seems, by some of the professors themselves, who take for granted that the only motive that can prompt a young man to so desperate a struggle is an irresistible vocation, and that all these eager spirits are men of unusual genius. But, unfortunately, in the judgment of those who know, parental vanity is often the moving cause; and the power of application, the power of production are not confined to genius—they are found in hopeless mediocrity as well; only the application amounts to nothing, and the production is a mere beating out of the threshed straw.

More grave than the lack of sufficient food, of decent lodging, of comfortable clothing, is the absence of a suitable early education at home, the want of intercourse with cultivated people during the time of study. The student of this class has never had an atmosphere that would fit him for the free breath of university life, and the necessities of daily toil prevent him from following the university instructions in the appointed way, and cut him off from the privileges which belong to his untrammelled brethren. The result is in most cases a sad failure. One only hears of the few successes; but those few successes must be set down as accidents, and the general outcome is a lowering of the intellectual tone of the professions.

All this is uncomfortable in the extreme. Much of it, as has been said, has little meaning for us, but it may come to have a meaning, and, in any case, students all over the world have an interest in the fortunes of students.

When we come to the remedies, we find in the

first line the somewhat futile appeal to the good sense of parents, who are, apparently, to renounce pomps and vanities, and put their sons to a trade. We know what that means. We know that any good American mechanic, from a plumber down, can make an excellent living, and yet the ranks of the professions are crowded with failures. The second remedy is a peculiarly German one, and that is an increased stringency of examination at the close of the gymnasium course. Without a certificate of fitness, no one can enter the university; and this certificate should be withheld unless the examination prove entirely satisfactory. And even after that, the student should be solemnly warned of the difficulties of life in a great city. Students cannot be forced to attend any particular university, but they may be coaxed away from the pitiless centres of civilization to smaller schools, where they can enter into personal relations with their teachers, and enjoy advantages of a certain sort that are denied to those who frequent the great universities. It is absolutely impossible, says the contributor to the *Revue*, that 1,000 students can give themselves up seriously to anatomical studies, no matter how well equipped a university may be, or that 1,500 can find the means of devoting their time usefully to chemical experiments or microscopic researches. The evils are German; the remedies are also German. At the same time, there is matter enough to make an American think.

CHURCH AFFAIRS IN ENGLAND: THE LATE BISHOP OF MANCHESTER.

LONDON, November 7, 1885.

QUITE suddenly, and contrary to the expectations of most politicians, we have been plunged into warm discussions on the merits of established churches and the propriety of putting an end to them. In Scotland the question has been before the people for a good many years, but it went on simmering without seeming to come any nearer to boiling point until the approach of this general election. In England little or nothing had been heard of the matter since the fall of the Episcopal Establishment in Ireland in 1801, because every one sees the Established Church of England to be so strong and deeply rooted that a long and bitter contest would be needed to overthrow it. However, Mr. Gladstone, somewhat to the surprise of those who know his habitual caution, referred to the question of disestablishment in his election programme issued six weeks ago, and although he relegated it to the "dim and distant future," the expression of his opinion that it would eventually become a practical question, joined to the avowals of Mr. Chamberlain and other Radicals that they approved of disestablishment in principle, made it a theme of animated controversy. The Tory party, who had been at a loss for a good election cry, seized on the defence of the Church as the leading plank in their platform, and the clergy of the Church of England (no inconsiderable force in our politics) have naturally been led by this to throw in their lot more heartily than ever with the Tory party. Even those who believe that the problem is still far from a solution, cannot now deny that the present agitation is hastening that solution, for the number of candidates who pronounce for disestablishment is increasing fast, and the newly enfranchised agricultural laborers, whom the country clergy seem to have relied on as their friends, are, in many districts, giving their support to these disestablishers.

In these circumstances your readers may be interested to hear something regarding an eminent man, just deceased, whose episcopal career illustrates more fully and more brilliantly than that

of any other recent prelate the strength and worth of the Church of England. I may add that the Bishop of Manchester had visited the United States, as special commissioner to investigate your educational system, and described what he saw in an official report, published in 1868, which remains the best general account of American schools that any stranger has produced.

Till about forty years ago the English bishop was usually a rich, dignified, and rather indolent magnate, aristocratic in his tastes and habits, moderate in his theology, sometimes to the verge of indifferentism, quite as much a man of the world as a pastor of souls. He had usually obtained his preferment by his family connections, or by some service rendered to the court or a political chief—perhaps even by solicitation or intrigue. Now and then eminent in learning or literature raised a man to the bench; there were, for instance, the "Greek play" bishops, such as Doctor Monk, of Gloucester, whose fame rested on their editions of the Attic dramatists; and the *Quarterly Review* bishops, such as Doctor Copston, of Llandaff, whose powerful pen as well as his wise administration of the great Oxford College over which he long presided, amply justified his promotion. But, on the whole, the bishops of those days were more remarkable for their prudence and tact, their adroitness and suppleness, than for intellectual or moral superiority to the rest of the clergy. Their own world, and the middle class which took its tone from the upper class, respected them as a part of the solid fabric of English society, but they were a mark for Radical invective and for literary sneers. Their luxurious pomp and ease were incessantly contrasted with the simplicity of the apostles and the poverty of curates.

That revival within the Church of England which went on in various forms from 1800 till 1870, at first Low Church or Evangelical, latterly more conspicuously High Church and Ritualist, at length reached the bishops. Lord Palmerston filled the vacant sees that fell to him with earnest men, sometimes narrow, sometimes deficient in learning, but often good preachers, and usually zealous for the doctrines they held. When the High Churchmen found their way to the bench, as they have done very largely under Mr. Gladstone's rule, they showed as much zeal as the Evangelicals, and greater practical activity. The popular idea of what may be expected from a bishop rose, and the bishops rose with the idea. As Bishop of Oxford, Dr. Samuel Wilberforce was the first to make himself powerfully felt through his diocese; his example told upon other prelates, and made prime ministers more anxious to select energetic and popular men. So it has come to pass that the bishops are now among the foremost men in the Church of England. Some, like Doctor Magee, of Peterborough, are brilliant orators; some, like Doctor Lightfoot, of Durham, profound scholars; some, like Doctor Temple, of London, able and earnest administrators. There is scarcely one who has not some good claim to the dignity he enjoys. Nobody now thinks of sneering at bishops as a class, for no set of men take a more active and, on the whole, creditable part in the public business of the country. Their incomes, curtailed of late years in the case of several of the richer sees, are no more than sufficient for the expenses which fall upon them, and they work as hard as any other men for their salaries. The only defect which is still generally charged upon them is a certain episcopal conventionalism, a disposition to try to please everybody by the use of vague professional language, a tendency to think too much about the Church as a church, and to yield to clerical opinion when they ought to speak and act with independence. Several of them, and notably the three I have just

mentioned, are not open to this reproach. But the one who has just passed away was so singularly free from it, and so eminent a model of all the virtues which ought to characterize a great Christian pastor, that his career as a bishop may be said to mark a new departure, to have created a new type of episcopal excellence.

Doctor Fraser spent the first years of his manhood in Oxford, as a tutor in Oriel College, teaching Aristotle and Thucydides. He then took a college living in a quiet nook in the south of England, and discharged for nearly twenty years the simple duties of a parish priest, unknown to the great world, but making himself beloved by the people, and doing his best to improve their condition. In 1865 he was sent as an assistant commissioner to examine the common-school system of the United States, and the excellence of his report thereon attracted the notice of the late Lord Lyttleton, one of a commission which was then sitting to investigate the state of secondary education in England. On the recommendation (as has been generally believed) of Lord Lyttleton and of the then Bishop of Salisbury, who was a friend of Doctor Fraser's, Mr. Gladstone, at that time Prime Minister, appointed him Bishop of Manchester in 1870. The diocese of Manchester, which includes all Lancashire except Liverpool and a small district in the extreme north of the county, had been under a bishop who, although an able and learned man, was personally unpopular, and had done little beyond his formal duties. He lived in a large and handsome country-house some miles from the city, and was known by sight to very few of its inhabitants. Doctor Fraser had not been three months in the county before everything was changed. He got the country-house sold, and established himself in a modest house in one of the suburbs of the city. He preached twice every Sunday, usually in some parish church, and spent the week in travelling up and down his diocese, so that the days were few in which he was not on the railway. He stretched out the hand of friendship to the Dissenters (numerous and powerful in the manufacturing districts), who had hitherto regarded a bishop as a natural enemy, gained their confidence, and soon became as popular with them as with the laity of his own Church. He associated himself with all the works of benevolence or public utility which were in progress, subscribed to all so far as his means allowed, and was always ready to speak at a meeting on behalf of any good enterprise. He dealt in his sermons with the topics of the day, avoiding party politics, but speaking his mind on all social and moral questions with a freedom which sometimes involved him in passing difficulties, but stimulated the minds of his hearers, and gave the impression of his own perfect candor and perfect courage. He lost no opportunity of meeting the workingmen, would go and talk to them at the mills, or in the evening gatherings of mechanics' institutes; and when any misfortune befell, such as a colliery accident, he was often among the first to reach the spot, to help the survivors, and comfort the widows. He made no difference between rich and poor, showed no wish to stay at the houses of the great, and treated the poorest curate with as much courtesy as the most pompous count magnate.

Such a simple, earnest, active course of conduct soon told upon the feelings of the people. But the impression made by his personality seemed even greater. He was a tall, well-built man, very erect in figure, with a quick eye, a firm step, an expression of singular heartiness and geniality. He seemed always cheerful, and, in spite of his endless labors, always fresh and strong. His smile and the grasp of his hand put you into good humor with yourself and the

world; if you were dispirited, they led you at once out of shadow into sunlight. He was not profoundly learned, and he had no time for sustained and searching thought; yet he seemed always abreast of what was passing in the world, and to know what the books and articles and speeches of the day contained, although he could not have read them. With strong opinions of his own, he was anxious to hear yours; a ready and eager talker, yet a willing listener. His oratory was plain, with few flights of rhetoric, but it was direct and vigorous, free from conventional phrases, always charged with solid thinking and genuine feeling. However, the greatest charm, both of his public and private talk, was the transparent sincerity and honesty that shone through it. His mind was like a crystal pool of water, in which you saw every object, and saw nothing that was mean or unworthy. There has not been in this generation of Englishmen any more simple or noble soul.

No one will wonder that such a character, set in a conspicuous place, and joined to extraordinary activity and zeal, should have produced an immense effect on the people of his city and diocese. No bishop in our time has been nearly so popular or so useful as he; none certainly has been so much lamented by the masses of the people. But it is a significant fact that he was more popular with the laity than with the clergy. Not that there was ever any slur on his orthodoxy. He was a moderate High Churchman, verging toward what would be called a Broad-Church position; always maintaining the claim of the Anglican Church to undertake the education of the people, and upholding her status as an Establishment, but dwelling very little on minor points of doctrinal difference, and seeming to care still less for external observances or matters of ritual. This displeased the Ritualist party, and even among other sections of the clergy there was a kind of feeling that the Bishop was not sufficiently clerical, did not set full store by the sacerdotal side of his office, and did not think enough about purely clerical questions. Even his friendliness to the Dissenters was ill regarded by those clergymen who deny to the Dissenters the title of Christian ministers.

Such a career as I have described is only possible in a country where the clergy is not wholly separated as a caste from the lay people, and where at the same time the existence of a state church gives one of its high officials a legal standing of great dignity and considerable power. It may be thought that a church with such leaders is in little danger. Unfortunately such leaders are rare. Were all her bishops like Bishop Fraser, the Anglican Church might stand as an Established Church for generations to come. Were his spirit of broad, generous friendliness to all classes and sects to pervade the clergy generally, that hostility which the Nonconformist ministers and a large part of the working-class feel toward them would soon disappear. This is too much to hope for. Although there is now greater external courtesy between the ministers of different religious bodies toward one another than formerly existed, the growth of sacerdotalism in England tends to make the Anglican clergy feel themselves more and more a separate caste, invested with supernatural powers; and their teaching has in it less and less of Protestant theology. The association of zeal and fervor with narrowness and even bitterness is so frequent that it is pleasant to dwell on so noble an example as Doctor Fraser presented of a truly catholic spirit combined with intense feelings and untiring activity. In these respects he resembled Dean Stanley (who admired and valued him), and they deserve to be remembered together as among the brightest lights of their church and generation.

PARCHMENT-HUNTING IN FRENCH COUNTRY TOWNS.

ROYAT, PUY-DE-DÔME, October, 1885.

PROBABLY no French town of twenty thousand people is without an antiquary's shop. Especially in regions little frequented by strangers, the tourist, however insensitive he may be when at home to the attractions of similar places, will find them hard to resist when he has time on his hands abroad. Their peculiarity is that they contain real antiquities.

It was in Blois that I first rummaged among these shops, whose attractions are almost a rival to those of the castle, though this is certainly one of the most interesting in France. The traveller will remember the long flight of stone steps which climbs the steep hill in the centre of the town. Near the foot of this hill there is a well-furnished book-shop; its windows display old editions and rich bindings, and tempt one to enter and inquire for antiquities. Here I found a quantity of old notarial documents and diplomas of college or university, all more or less recently cleared out from some town hall, or unearthed from neighboring castles, and sold by a careless owner, as no longer valuable to him. This was the case with most of the parchments I found at Blois; they had been acquired within a few years from the castle of Madon and from a former proprietor of the neighboring castle of Chaumont (the *calvus mons* of mediæval time), and most of them pertained to the affairs of the *seigneurie de Chaumont*. Contracts, executions, sales of vineyards and houses, legal decisions, *actes de vente*, loans on mortgage, the marriage contract of a M. Lubin—these were the chief documents that I found and purchased. Similar documents may be found from time to time in many a French country town; and even at the monthly fairs in the market-place I have occasionally seen old parchments exposed.

For what purpose are they usually bought and sold? For relics of the old time? for their historical value? for their signatures, or as specimens of old handwriting? By no means; they are not even bought to sell again. They are generally sold at so much a pound or sheet, for the very serviceable yet quite unliterary purpose of covering jelly-pots. Nothing covers a jelly-pot so well as a sound piece of vellum or parchment; and the script of the eleventh century, or a gilt *fleuron* of the fifteenth, by no means impairs the quality of the parchment—perhaps even gives it a decorative value in the eyes of the good housekeeper. The French housekeepers probably make the best jelly that is made in the world. What is more natural than that they should use these fine old parchments to cover their excellent *confitures*? The amount of local history and chronicle that has thus disappeared in French kitchens is something quite incomputable, unless by one who has lived in one of those most interesting and unknown countries, the interior departments of France. From this insufficiently honorable doom I rescued a considerable number of parchments, but rescued some of them only in part: from several of the finest, large pieces had already been cut away. The binder, too, as well as the housewife, is a great consumer of ancient vellums. I was told in Besançon that certain Swiss towns had supplied their ancient archives to binders in eastern France. Not only ancient writing, but fine illumination, is thus sacrificed. For the European collector, such manuscripts as I have described have generally but little interest. He demands some special historic or artistic value, some rare signature, some curious illumination. He is spoiled for antiquity, and the mere age of a document counts for nothing with him. Five hundred years are but as a day in his sight.

Hence an old manuscript, as such, has but little value, for him, and this leaves quantities of parchments for the tourist who will give a little time to the search.

At Besançon a little later I found many interesting parchments. Among these were some beautifully illuminated diplomas; of these the half of one, and that the prettiest, had already gone to the book-binder or the jelly-pots. The other half bore the names of families known on both sides of the water. Such names, indeed, presumably those of the ancestors or the ancestral relations of the present families, I found in a number of instances. Among them was the name of Domett, the English poet, the intimate friend of Browning and the original of his "Waring," whose ancestors came from Arbois, in the Jura. A number of the Besançon parchments illustrated the occupation, marriages, and fortunes of the ancestors of a friend of my own, an American, who knew that his family came from the east of France, but had never looked up its records. This was a chance find on my part; and there were others of a certain historic interest. One authentic signature of Louis XIV.—a signature now getting rare—turned up, besides several that were made for him by his Master of the Seals, and recognizable as such by a peculiar tailed cipher or flourish affixed to the signature. Another find was a splendid parchment of the year 1534, about two feet broad by five feet long, and containing a curious bit of historical information. It related to the corner lots adjoining Cardinal Granvelle's palace in Besançon, perhaps the finest edifice in the city. Why had not the magnificent minister of the Emperor Charles built clear to the corner? To this day the plain structure that occupies the corner testifies that some obstacle stood in the way of completing the Palais Granvelle as the builder desired. What the obstacle was the histories of the time do not say, though the Cardinal's own published letters refer to his disappointment. My ancient parchment explained the whole thing. It was a will, bequeathing the property from a father to a son, who held to it for the purpose of standing in the way of the Cardinal. He coveted it, but could not treat the sturdy owner *à la Naboth*. The document was beautifully written, and merely as a specimen of the sixteenth-century orthography it was interesting.

But the curiosity-hunter should never permit himself to take away from a city the things that are the city's, and I turned over to the library of Besançon this parchment illustrative of the city's history, well content to have saved it from covering pots of quince jam. I hasten to add that I was no loser, for the city librarian, M. Castan, one of the most accomplished and courteous of gentlemen, insisted on my taking in return a dozen Roman medals of bronze and silver, ranging from the time of Julius Caesar to the end of the second century, and all found in the teeming soil of Besançon, which is as full of Roman coins as a peanut hill is full of peanuts.

Other manuscript finds were scarcely less interesting. Among them were some leaves of a missal of the eleventh century containing a fragment of St. John's Gospel: their beautiful characters were traced at a date that ascends nearly halfway to the time of the events recorded.

Here at Royat, among the mineral springs of the Auvergne Mountains, I have come across a quantity of ancient German parchments, some of them curious and dating from the early fifteenth century. But here the dealer is somewhat spoiled, at least from my point of view, by living in a frequented watering place, and by having learned, in consequence, to expect high prices for her wares. These she exposes to air, sun, and rain with impartial and distressing in-

difference. Documents of the fifteenth century are parcelled up in a corner of a tray, and carried indoors only when the clouds roll down heavily from the Puy-de-Dôme and the large raindrops begin to fall. I have secured a few, however, and the *antiquaire* assures me that more can be found in a neighboring town. How much marketable value such documents may have among us I do not know; but both for their antiquity and for the glimpses of ancient manners that they afford, they have had interest enough to keep me busy for days. I know of nothing more fascinating than to search among these documents, sitting before two large tables, one covered with an oscillating pile of old parchments and vellum, the other ready to receive the finds that you may sort out from the unrummaged pile. One must be quick to forestall the bookbinder and the jellymaker, but even now no inconsiderable quantity of old parchments may be gathered in the inland and little visited towns of France. Do you ask what guarantee of genuineness these old parchments have? Every intrinsic guarantee that one could wish; but I need mention only one. These parchments are offered at about a twentieth part of the price that it would cost to produce imitations of the documents.

T. M. C.

Correspondence.

ONE MORE GOOD APPOINTMENT.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: A recent appointment by the Secretary of the Treasury, that of Artemas Martin, of Erie, Pa., as Librarian of the Coast and Geodetic Survey, is so characteristic of the present Administration that it ought not to go unnoticed. Artemas Martin has been long known and honored by the mathematical world as one of the few really good mathematicians on this side of the Atlantic, and as a striking example of a self-made man. Almost absolutely without scholastic training, he has risen to so enviable a position among geometers and analysts by the sheer force of inherent intellectual and moral qualities, that scholastic prejudices have given way, and the colleges have vied with each other in showering their degrees upon him. He has also been honored with membership in the chief mathematical societies of Europe. He is a lover of books, and just the person to be put in charge of the library of a mathematical institution like the Coast Survey. Formerly the archives of the Survey were separate from the library, and in charge of another official. These have now been consolidated with the library under Mr. Martin, who is quite competent to discharge the duties for both, thus saving to the Government the salary of one official.

This appointment of Mr. Martin not only subserves the public interests, but is a graceful recognition of superior fitness and personal worth, and an evidence of the enlightened policy of the Administration in dealing with scientific bureaux and scientific men.

ALEX. S. CHRISTIE.
WASHINGTON CITY, November 16, 1885.

ENTAIL IN VIRGINIA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: Mr. McMaster, in his first volume of the "History of the People of the United States," page 74, says, speaking of the Virginian of 1784:

"His opinions respecting forms of government and forms of creed were not the result of long study or of deep meditation, but were inherited with his estate, which passed from father to son by the strictest laws of entail."

Now, at that time, in Virginia, the whole real estate of a father who died *intestate* passed to his

eldest son, according to the common law of descent which prevailed from the first settlement of Virginia down to 1787. It will be remembered that Mr. Jefferson, who formed one of the Committee appointed by the colony of Virginia, four months after its independence was declared, to revise the laws, succeeded in abolishing primogeniture. The laws framed by this Committee, which consisted of those distinguished Virginians, Edmund Pendleton, George Wythe, George Mason, Thomas Ludwell Lee, and Thomas Jefferson, were enacted in October, 1785, but did not take effect until January 1, 1787.

If Mr. McMaster means by "strictest laws of entail" anything but this, he is in error. One would infer from the passage cited either that there were laws rigidly restraining the power of alienation, or that the old "family law" of estates-tail, by which estates could be granted by deed or will to one and the heirs of his body forever, still existed and enjoyed the favorable regard of Virginians in 1784. But the truth is that by act of October 7, 1776, an attempt was made to prevent the *entailing* of estates in Virginia, because, as stated in its preamble, the perpetuation of property in certain families "is contrary to good policy, tends to deceive fair traders, who give credit on the visible possession of such estates, discourages the holder thereof from taking care of and improving the same, and sometimes does injury to the morals of youth, by rendering them independent of and disobedient to their parents." This act was amended in 1785 so as more completely to accomplish its purpose. It is, therefore, substantially true to say that in Virginia, in 1784, not only were there no strict laws of entail, but that, on the contrary, the perpetuation of estates in families by act of the parties was, by a law which had been in existence eight years, strictly prohibited. It is only proper to add that all of the law touching this matter may be found in the second volume of Minor's Institutes, pages 85 and 86.—Very respectfully,

E. I. RENICK.

WASHINGTON, D. C., November 8, 1885.

IDEALISM AND REALISM ONCE MORE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: The letter from Professor Sill in last week's *Nation* a little darkens counsel, it seems to me, by regretting that the terms idealism and realism should be used in characterizing literary products. He regrets it on the ground that those works commonly called idealistic depict what is more real, not less real, than those of the realistic school.

But is not this the case with all embodiments, effects, and results of ideal conceptions? Are they not truer, and in that sense more real, than anything else? Whether the ideal takes shape in character or in any of the expressions of genius, it partakes of the nature of the Rock of Ages, around which seethes and bubbles the changing vastness of what we call *real*—the waves on which no man can build; and Professor Sill says well that "the best fiction and the best art of any sort . . . gives us what is universally and always true, and not merely what is locally and temporarily true." It seems to me a curious incongruity that he should preface this by saying that "the best fiction and the best art of any kind is realistic," and that he should designate Shakspere as "realistic." He surely confuses terms; and he must permit us still to retain "ideal" and "real" in their familiar significations—the one as meaning what *might be, anywhere*; the other as *what is, somewhere*: *Othello*—Silia Lapham.

The excellence of the literature of the ideal is not to be measured, as Professor Sill seems to imply, by the degree to which it is permeated

with "ideas," but by the height and strength of those ideas, and by the light that rays out from them. There are books

"Whose light doth trample on our days:
Our days, which are at best but dull and hoary,
Mere glimmerings and decays";

and we cannot forego the use of the terms clearly discriminating between these enduring achievements of literary art, these stars which, informed with light, illuminate the heaven of the soul's imaginings, and those magic-lantern pictures which—with whatever ability of "selection" (to use Professor Sill's word)—attempt but to represent, to give back to us in artistic forms, our dull and merely glimmering days, with no more will than power "to quicken our cold love."

AN IDEALIST.

TELEPATHIC NEWS OF BATTLES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: In addition to the instances of telepathy given in your article of this week, another may be given. Robert White, in a 'History of the Battle of Bannockburn,' states that Hector Boece, of Aberdeen, relates, that on the same day the battle was fought, a knight, in bright shining armor, intimated to the inhabitants of Aberdeen how the Scottish army had gained a great victory over their enemies of England. Soon afterward this warrior, mounted on horseback, was seen to pass over the Pentland Firth. He was believed by the people to be Saint Magnus, Prince of Orkney, and thereon King Robert endowed the Church of Orkney with five pounds annually, out of the customs of Aberdeen, to purchase bread, wine, and wax for the abbey.

Probably the reason why he stopped to tell the glorious news in Aberdeen was because Aberdeen was very largely represented in Bruce's army at Bannockburn, where the Aberdonian pass-word was "Bon-accord"—now the motto of Aberdeen.

Yours truly, JOHN JOHNSTON.
MILWAUKEE, November 7, 1885.

RELIGIOUS COURSES AT JOHNS HOPKINS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: In enumerating religious courses given at Johns Hopkins University in your last issue, Mr. Wadsworth fails to state the course in New Testament Greek and in Sub-Apostolic Literature, each of three hours weekly, given 1884-85 by Professor Harris; also the course in Church History twice weekly by Doctor Adams. The addition of these three courses raises the number of hours given here to religious and allied subjects from ten hours weekly to eighteen. X.
BALTIMORE, Md., November 13, 1885.

UNBELIEF AT YALE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: The brief but remarkable communication from "An Old Graduate" upon "Cause and Effect at Yale," in the last number of the *Nation*, contains the following sentences:

"The opinion is gaining ground that prominent positions at Yale are held by unbelievers. Now unbelief is either a sin, or else (like faith in perpetual motion, for instance) the sign of mental obliquity, of an intellect not in perfect working order. . . . No institution will find favor with the public whose standard-bearers are men whose mental processes have led them on such a vital point to false conclusions."

To the intelligent readers of the *Nation* it will be surprising to find any graduate of a university, however "old" he may be, who can, in this year of grace, give serious utterance to these views. If they were shared in by the Faculty of Yale College, his question why "the class which en-

tered the College this year is so small" would seem to answer itself.

QUATORZE.

[We have, for our part, felt doubtful about taking "An Old Graduate" as seriously as our correspondents have done. Dr. John P. Gulliver, however, in the November number of the *New-Englander and Yale Review*, discusses "The Clerical Element in the Yale Corporation" in a way which shows that he would have little difficulty in adopting "An Old Graduate's" major premise. He mentions as an "excellent plan" the original proposition to organize a General Synod of the Congregational churches of Connecticut, which "should have such influence in the elections [of Trustees] as might be necessary to maintain orthodoxy in the governors." Doctor Gulliver says "this has been substantially adopted in the organization of the Chicago Theological Seminary," thus clearly showing that he regards the proper discipline for a college of the liberal arts to be the same as that for a divinity school. In view of this, we are surprised that he punctuates with an exclamation mark his suggestion whether a degree in orthodoxy as well as in learning "should not be legally demanded if all the alumni are allowed to vote for members of the Corporation," seeing that the propagation "of the Christian Protestant Religion, by a succession of learned and orthodox men," was from an early period the declared object of Yale College.—ED. NATION.]

Notes.

FOUR thousand dollars have already been subscribed for a permanent building at Athens for the American School of Classical Studies, on ground freely bestowed (as our readers are aware) by the Greek Government, and in close and convenient proximity to the site of the projected British School. The sum estimated to be necessary is \$20,000, the interest on which is not materially greater than the present annual rent of the building actually leased, viz.: \$1,000. An appeal to the friends of classical studies and of the School for the raising of the sum named above has been put forth by Professors C. E. Norton and John Williams White, of Cambridge, to either of whom contributions may be sent.

During the coming month the Historical Society of Pennsylvania will commemorate the 200th anniversary of the art of printing in the middle colonies of North America. An address in the Society's hall on December 11, by the Rev. George Dana Boardman, D.D., will be followed on the next evening by a dinner in the same place, in which the various representatives of the typographic craft will take part. It is fortunate that the first volume of Mr. C. R. Hildeburn's "Issues of the Press in Pennsylvania, 1685-1784," has already been completed to signalize this occasion.

It was inevitable that the Appalachian Mountain Club should outgrow the hospitality accorded to it by another institution in Boston. It has now secured a room in the Ticknor house on Park Street, Boston, certainly a site more consonant with the object and title of the Club than the Back Bay afforded. It will be open to members in the afternoon, but as yet the Club cannot maintain a curator.

G. P. Putnam's Sons have in preparation and in press "Humorous Masterpieces from American Literature," edited by Edward T. Mason; "Mechanics and Faith: A Study of Spiritual

Truth in Nature," by Charles Talbot Porter; "Songs of Sleepy Hollow," by Stephen H. Thayer; "The Adirondacks as a Health Resort," by Dr. J. W. Stickler; "Relations between the Army and the People," by Captain George F. Price (in the series of Military Monographs); and "The Louisiana Purchase in its Influence upon the American System," by the Rev. C. F. Robertson D. D., and "The Political History of Canada," by Prof. Goldwin Smith (in the Monographs of the American Historical Association).

T. Y. Crowell & Co. have just ready a translation of Count Leo Tolstoi's "My Religion," of which our Paris correspondent lately gave an interesting précis.

The Rev. D. C. A. Agnew's "Protestant Exiles from France in the Reign of Louis XIV." is well known to students of the Huguenot dispersion. The first edition of this work was published in 1866. A "new and remodelled" edition appeared in 1871, in two volumes, followed in 1874 by an "index-volume" containing much supplementary matter. Since then Mr. Agnew has diligently pursued his investigations, and he now proposes to publish "a new enlarged and remodelled edition," embodying the results of his further labor. It will be published in two handsome volumes, for private circulation, at £5, and only fifty copies will be printed. Names for subscription may be sent to the Rev. Charles W. Baird, Rye, N. Y.

Ginn & Co. will publish at New Year's "Studies in Greek Thought," being essays selected from the papers of the late Prof. Lewis R. Packard, of Yale.

A biographical sketch of Adelaide Neilson, by Laura C. Holloway, is about to be issued by Funk & Wagnalls. It will contain nine portraits by Sarony.

George H. Buchanan & Co., Philadelphia, issue immediately "The Ethics of George Eliot's Works," by the late John Crombie Brown.

"The Women Friends of Jesus," a series of popular lectures by the Rev. Henry C. McCook, D. D., is announced by Fords, Howard & Hulbert.

Cupples, Upham & Co. will shortly have ready "Sketches of the Clans of Scotland," with colored representations of the distinctive tartan worn by each.

The Carlyle reprint now in progress at the hands of Estes & Lauriat, Boston, of which we have already mentioned the first volume, is denominated the Sterling Edition, and is issued "at a popular price" in twenty volumes. It is wholly new in its manufacture.

Mr. Edmund Gosse is about to receive the degree of M. A. from Cambridge, where, as Clark lecturer, he has just delivered six lectures on Sir Walter Raleigh as a man of letters, the substance of which will probably reappear in his forthcoming sketch of Raleigh in Mr. Lang's series of "English Worthies."

Two books about the stage likely to be of general interest are "Rachel," by Mrs. Kennard, in the "Eminent Women Series," and "David Garrick," by Mr. Walter Pollock, in Mr. Lang's series of "English Worthies." Although there are three biographies of Garrick, no one is altogether satisfactory; and of Rachel there is no good biography either in French or English.

In welcoming the new "Publishers' Trade List Annual for 1885" to our table, we need only remark on the ingenious device by which pagination is made easy for the possessor of this huge compound of catalogues. Alphabetical reference is also facilitated by a well-known contrivance on the margins.

The first volume of an important work on the art monuments of Hesse is very soon to be published by a commission appointed by the Grand Duke. It will contain an inventory, accompanied by a profusely illustrated description of the works

of art, including architecture, in that country at the close of the eighteenth century.

The King of Saxony has given to the Royal Public Library in Dresden the library in the castle at Oels formerly belonging to the Duke of Brunswick. It contains some manuscripts and between 20,000 and 30,000 volumes, many of which are rare and valuable.

'Austria and Hungary in Word and Picture' ('Oesterreich-Ungarn in Wort und Bild') is the title of a work the first part of which is to be published this month in German and Hungarian. The introduction is written by the Crown Prince Rudolf.

Another Austrian Archduke, the well-known traveller, Ludwig Salvator, has in press a book on Los Angeles in Southern California. A popular edition of his travels 'Around the World,' published two years ago, is also about to appear.

Still another royal author, King Oscar of Sweden, is about to publish a work relating to the political events in Europe between the years 1864 and 1872.

The fifth volume of Mr. Lodge's edition of the works of Alexander Hamilton (Putnam's) is more than half occupied with the "Camilus" essays in defence of the Jay treaty. The remaining portion is divided between essays on our foreign policy, in opposition to the endeavor to yoke this country to the fortunes of France, and official communications from Hamilton while Secretary of the Treasury concerning the Whiskey Rebellion. Among the essays is one signed "Detector," derived from the Hamilton MSS., and never before published; together with a paper, dated 1803, which has already seen the light in J. C. Hamilton's 'History of the Republic,' and which is remarkable for Hamilton's opinion that Bonaparte would not negotiate for the transfer of the Louisiana territory, and his consequent advice that New Orleans be seized in order to force a sale. In an essay of 1799 we read: "German patriotism is a heinous offence in the eyes of French patriots." The editor exhibits a mixed practice in regard to his annotations, sometimes acknowledging them, and sometimes not; and his table of contents is still far too meagre.

'Life's Verses' (Mitchell & Miller) comprises the best of the recent *vers de société* of our esteemed humorous contemporary, and some of the best of Mr. F. G. Attwood's vignettes (among many clever designs by other hands). The whole Butler series, beginning with Abou Ben, is not so much caricature as it is insight.

The typographical conception and execution of Mrs. Norton's 'Lady of La Garaye'—a poem now nearly a quarter of a century old—in the rubricated edition just published by A. D. F. Randolph & Co., are very commendable. We should have liked the cover, of a Chinese gilt pattern, better without the red stamp, though not solely on the ground of color contrast.

Another reprint, by the same firm, Dr. Neal's translation of 'The Celestial Country,' is entitled to equal praise for the beauty of its presswork. But by what canon of art the illustrations (photographs from absolutely mediocre designs) were admitted; or of taste, the cover adopted, we cannot divine.

We cannot conceive that any one capable of appreciating Wordsworth's "Ode on Immortality," and "Lines on Tintern Abbey," should fail to be offended by the "illustrations" offered by Cassell & Co. in their holiday edition of these two poems. The verse and the engravings appeal to two different orders of intelligence.

Jean Ingelow is a poet whom the designer need not approach with awe. The composite volume of 'Favorite Poems' which Roberts Brothers put forth exhibits great inequality of artistic power, the designs for the "Songs of Seven" being almost without exception commonplace; those for

"The High Tide" for the most part of more than ordinary excellence; and those for "The Shepherd Lady, etc., quite as low in level as the first. With a view to being laid on a drawing-room table, the cover of the book has been adorned with a sunken panel containing a metallic high relief of St. Botolph Church.

Mr. Harry Fenn's contributions to the artistic product in the 'Sermon on the Mount' (Roberts Bros.) are much the best of the series. A few of Mr. Sidney L. Smith's emblematic borders are well considered and agreeable. Beyond this the enterprise does not challenge our admiration. Mr. Edward Everett Hale furnishes an introduction, in which he reconciles worldliness and the Sermon on the Mount with all the ease of a veteran practitioner in the art of accommodating theology and science.

The useful part of Mr. Allen Dodworth's 'Dancing and Its Relations to Education and Social Life' (Harpers) consists in its practical instruction in a great variety of dances, particularly the cotillion. The amusing part is this well-known teacher's moralizing, as when, having remarked how the greater lapses from virtue are preceded by lesser ones, he asks, "What may we expect, therefore, from those young men who, in dancing, recklessly soil the beautiful fabrics of women's costumes with perspiring hands, rather than avoid that injury by wearing gloves?"

Harper's Young People comes to us in its sixth bound volume, of which it is neither easy nor necessary to summarize the varied contents. Here appear portions of Mr. Howard Pyle's 'Pepper and Salt,' and one also remarks the series of beautiful engravings of infant heads by Mr. Frank French.

It is well to be warned in time, and any friend of psychic research who may be tempted to explore the phenomena of spiritualism should read a little book from the German, just published by the Harpers and called 'Beyond the Grave.' No Christian, says Dr. Hermann Cremer, can "for a moment put himself on the footing of negotiation and investigation with spiritualism, but can only brand it as a lie oppugnant to God," etc. To attempt intercourse with the dead "is wicked."

Dr. Beardsley's 'Life and Times of William Samuel Johnson' (Houghton, Mifflin & Co.), which originally appeared in 1876, has continued to be in demand, and a second edition is now published, revised as the plates would permit, and enlarged. The index, too, would have borne overhauling, for both the letters M and T are alphabetically faulty.

One of the pleasantest of the French theatrical annuals, *Les Soirées Parisiennes*, has only now made its appearance for last year—and for the last time. M. Arnold Mortier, the clever "Monsieur de l'Orchestre," fell ill toward the end of last year, and died on the first day of this. He was a Dutchman, and his last book has a biographical and critical preface by a German—Albert Wolff—and both of them were typical Parisians, as were Grimm, and Fiorentino, and Hamilton. The typical Parisian is rarely born in Paris, and not always even in France. M. Mortier's theatrical fantasies are as clever in this eleventh volume as in its predecessors, and the series will be a mine of hints for the future historian.

The late Charles de la Rounat, who, when he died a year ago, was manager of the classic Odéon Theatre in Paris, had been a dramatic critic of wide experience and sound judgment. There has recently been published by J. Rouan (New York: F. W. Chirstian) a thin volume of his 'Etudes Dramatiques,' apparently the first of a projected series, and devoted wholly to the chief actors of the Comédie-Française of a decade

ago—Mme. Arnould-Plessy, Régnier, M. Got, and M. Delaunay. They supplement admirably the more vigorous and incisive criticisms of M. Sarcey in the first series of 'Comédiens et Comédiennes.' The nearly twenty rather scratchy "process" sketches are quite sufficient to give a fair idea of the actor's appearance in a given part.

Quite the best map that we can name, at this moment, of the seat of war in the Balkans is the fresh edition by Dietrich Reimer, Berlin (New York: L. W. Schmidt), of H. Kiepert's General Map of the Southeastern European Peninsula. The scale is large: 1:1,500,000, and all of Greece, the Egean, Turkey, Bulgaria, Rumania, Servia, Bosnia, etc., is comprehended. The boundaries of the territories in dispute are authoritatively set down; the physical features are duly depicted, and as great accuracy as is possible has been secured for the proper names. The map is folded in neat covers, from which it can be wholly detached.

The great map of Africa undertaken by the house of Justus Perthes in Gotha on a scale of 1:4,000,000 has begun to appear (New York: B. Westermann & Co.). Part I.—there will be five in all—sets forth the scheme of the work, which is to furnish a map large enough and detailed enough to meet the wants of every class. The projection is Flamsteed's. The continent is skilfully divided into ten rectangles, six lying north of the equator and four to the south. Commencement is here made with sheets 1 and 5—namely, the northwestern, of which the diagonal is approximately a line drawn from Algiers to Cape Blanco; and the central, or line drawn from the Nile at New Dongola to Fernando Po. In the making of No. 5, Barth's observations are declared to have been more trustworthy than those of any more recent explorer. Peculiar difficulties attended the making of No. 1 from the extraordinary variety of materials, the want of astronomical precision, and the exuberant Arab and Berber terminology.

On October 19, Dr. Heinrich Leberecht Fleischer, incontestably the greatest Arabic scholar in Germany, celebrated the semi-centennial anniversary of his accession to the chair of Oriental Languages at the University of Leipzig, as successor to Rosenmüller. That position Dr. Fleischer has held to this day, declining in 1860 a call to fill the professorship of Arabic, Persian, and Turkish at the University of Berlin, and continuing to lecture after entering (on the 21st of last February) upon the eighty-fifth year of his life. Many distinguished marks of esteem and congratulation were showered upon the veteran teacher and author. The most striking was an album, presented by an international committee of Orientalists, and embracing votive photographs and inscriptions from 117 Oriental scholars of Europe, Asia, and America—all of them more or less strictly his pupils. The University and city of Leipzig, the Royal Academy of Sciences, and King Albert, vied with each other in paying homage to the eminent Saxon.

A very acceptable addition to the handsome 'Bibliothèque Orientale Elzévirienne,' published by Ernest Leroux in Paris, is 'Les Langues Perdues de la Perse et de l'Assyrie,' by M. Joachim Menant, of which the first part (Persia) has appeared, and the second (Assyria) is in press. These two little volumes, which tell the story of the discovery and gradual decipherment of the cuneiform inscriptions of Persepolis, Behistun, etc., in a very agreeable and lucid manner, are only slightly altered and augmented reproductions of the author's 'Les Ecritures Cunéiformes,' of which the second edition appeared in 1864. His name is, on the title-page as well as in the publisher's preface, spelled Menant, as it is also in his 'La Bibliothèque du Palais de Ninive,'

forming vol. xxviii of the same Elzevrian Library; and in Vapereau's 'Contemporains.' The greater works of the same French Assyriologist, however—such as his 'Annales des Rois d'Assyrie,' 'Babylone et la Chaldée,' and 'Leçons d'Épigraphie Assyrienne'—have on the title-page the name Ménant, and under this name we find him consistently quoted by Friedrich Delitzsch, Hommel, Duncker, etc., and noticed in Brockhaus's 'Conversations-Lexikon' (1885). We find Ménant in Maspero's 'Histoire Ancienne,' etc., and Ménant in Lenormant's 'La Langue Primitive de la Chaldée'—each of whom ought to know well—and both forms on one and the same page of the 'Records of the Past.'

—Mr. Halliwell-Phillipps still brings forth fruit after his kind. Writing to an American friend in the last week of October, he says: "I have had one piece of luck of late, in buying a deed of 1579 with the signature and beautiful handwriting of Walter Roche, who was Master of the grammar school at Stratford-on-Avon when Shakespeare was a little boy there. Only one other specimen of his handwriting—that in the Museum at the Birthplace—is known to exist. Another acquisition: I am not fond of mulberry-tree relics, wanting faith, but, by the death of my father's last surviving relative in Lancashire, I come into possession of one which was purchased by my grandmother at Stratford from Sharp himself in the last century, and so far has an undoubted pedigree." Sharp will be remembered as the relic-carver who, on the cutting down of Shakspere's mulberry in 1758 by Rector Gastrell, the then owner of the estate, "purchased the greatest part of it"—as he declared in a formal death-bed affidavit in 1799. The autograph of Roche, as the first schoolmaster the future dramatist ever saw, and one so nearly unique, deserves a station in Hollingbury Copse beside the signature of Shakspere's friend and patron, the Earl of Southampton, and that of Sir Thomas Lucy of Charlcote, who was perhaps in truth a still greater friend, albeit in the disguise of driving the poet to his field of future fame by a prosecution for deer-stealing. The free-school of which Roche was master, and which gave Shakspere his "small Latin and less Greek," has been shown by a recent writer in *Notes and Queries* to have been endowed before the year 1453. The master's salary was fixed at £10, and he was forbidden to receive any fees from pupils. Mr. Phillipps, while remarking that he would as soon think of making money by keeping a yacht as by the sale of his Shakspere 'Outlines,' adds that the fifth edition of that work is already out of print, and that he shall soon be at work on the sixth.

—That in 1633, not many months after the death of Gustavus Adolphus at Lützen, Wallenstein entered into secret negotiations with Sweden and France, Saxony and Brandenburg, with the object of forcing Ferdinand II., his master, to conclude a peace which would have completely humbled the Emperor and raised his generalissimo to the highest princely position under him, is a fact universally acknowledged by recent historians. On the strength of it, the great Catholic commander in the Thirty Years' War is now almost unanimously called a traitor in universal and special histories. Only his degree of criminality in the transaction—owing to diverse views of the causes which led to it, of the perplexities of the situation which Wallenstein's ambition and the fear and envy of him had created, and of the ultimate aims of his intended defection—has been variously judged, sectional and religious leanings entering largely into the formation of opinion. What was not known, or at least not conclusively known as authentic, down to very

recent days, is that Wallenstein began negotiations with the defenders of the Protestant cause as early as 1631—that is, at a time when the King of Sweden was living and advancing, and the power of the Catholic Emperor was less threatening than ever. Authentic documents drawn from the archives of Sweden and Saxony, and recently published in two simultaneous collections (Frankfort, 1885), remove the last doubt in the matter. Such, at least, is the weighty opinion of Professor Gindely, the foremost historian of the Thirty Years' War, in a résumé of the two publications, in the Munich *Allgemeine Zeitung*. The more important of the documentary collections is a reproduction, in German, by Dr. Emil Hildebrand, the veteran archaeologist of Sweden, of sixty-six documents published by him in 1883 in the Swedish *Historisk Tidskrift*; its title is, 'Wallenstein und seine Verbindungen mit den Schweden: Actenstücke aus dem schwedischen Reichsarchiv zu Stockholm.' The two papers most to the point are a letter of Count Thurn, the leader of the Bohemian Protestants at the outbreak of the war, to Gustavus Adolphus, under date of June 23, 1631, reporting the beginning of the "negotium," and confirmatory of other reports previously known but objected to as of doubtful authenticity, and a longer statement sent to the secretary of the same king by Nicolai, the Swedish Resident at Dresden, and detailing an interview at Kaunitz, November 20, 1631, between the Saxon Fieldmarshal Arnim and Wallenstein, in which the latter, "obstendo per omnia sacra," assured the Swedish King of his excellent intentions toward him, though still compelled to display fidelity to the Emperor and command his armies. The other collection, by Dr. Arnold Gädke, contains 165 documents, all drawn from the Saxon archives; it is entitled, 'Wallenstein's Verhandlungen mit den Schweden und Sachsen, 1631-4.'

—Theophil Zolling, editor of the *Gegenwart*, presents in a recent number of his journal some interesting facts and opinions concerning the status of the Germans and of things German in Paris. Herr Zolling writes apropos of a new German book upon Paris by Arthur Mennell ('Pariser Luft,' Leipzig: Albert Unflad). He remarks very calmly upon the increasing manifestations of Parisian Germanophobia, and with equal calmness shows how, in spite of all that, the "Germanization" of the French capital is progressing with astonishing rapidity. The latter subject makes a longer chapter than the former. One is perhaps not surprised to learn of the existence of an association of German students in Paris whose sole object is to prevent their newly-arrived countrymen from being gulled by the Parisians. Speaking of students, Herr Zolling is led to comment upon the disillusionment which Germans are compelled to undergo with regard to the Sorbonne. The "students" of the Sorbonne are said to number nominally 1,700, of whom a quarter attend lectures regularly. This aggregate audience consists mainly of elderly Frenchmen, German students, and women. Young Frenchmen who are studying for a profession attend the Sorbonne courses if they feel the need of them, but usually they feel no such need, or feel it very spasmodically. No professor lectures more than twice a week. There are no seminaries and no *privatissima*, and the hundred or so of German students at the Sorbonne get no mental aliment which they could not have of better quality and for less money at home. The position of German clerks in Paris is painted in very sombre hues. A trilingual correspondence clerk gets 100 francs a month, and is exposed to constant annoyance from his fellows. Germans out of employment are a common sight in Paris, and if they are poor it goes hard with them.

—But, in spite of all this, *Deutschthum* is gaining ground in Paris all the time. The number of German-speaking residents is not far from 100,000, and of these about a third are subjects of the Empire. The naturalized and (more or less) Gallicized Germans constitute a numerous class in nearly all phases of French life. Two admirals of the French fleet bear the names Ledebur and Meyer; three corps-commanders in the army are called Schmitz, Wolff, and Schneegans. The personnel of Parliament, of administration, of the book trade, the Bourse, the university, and of journalism has a large German element. Many of the newest song writers bear German names. Half of the police (says Herr Zolling) are German; so is nearly every concierge, and the executioner of Paris is a Monsieur Deibler. German beer, too, is indubitably capturing Paris, though it does not seem to be captivating the recognized organs of public opinion. Several newspapers make a specialty of denouncing beer as the very symbol of all vileness, as being, in short, German; and yet the beverage makes its way. Herr Zolling takes pains to correct the popular misapprehension that real beer is not to be had in Paris; he assures us that such a thing can be had for one's money, though it be an incontestable fact that an order for beer in an average Paris café or restaurant is certain to be answered *mit purem Rattengift*. Music, also, is helping to Germanize Paris. The concerts of the Conservatory offer "almost exclusively" German music; the opera-houses get rich upon Mozart and Weber; military music patterns more and more after German models, and the triumphant Wagnerians are pleading to be allowed to come to the rescue of the Grand Opéra with "Lohengrin" and "Tannhäuser." School and army are adopting German ideas, and German *Vereine* for various purposes are imitated by corresponding associations in France. Even the language of Paris is assimilating German words and German idioms at a rate which is, considering the conservatism of the French in these matters, surprising. Here it is that the influence of the bilingual Alsatians is felt. That there is any marked increase of interest in the German language on the part of the schools or of the educated class does not appear. A limited study of German is, however, required from French soldiers, who are provided with a 'Questionnaire usuel français-allemand,' from which these curious-looking specimens are taken: *Capitaine=hauptmann; cidre=apfelsaft; coucher=chlaffen; aux armes=ins guévrir; où est l'ennemi?=vo stadt der faynnd? la route traverse-t-elle?=furt de strasse nak?*

—J. J. von Tschudi's 'Organismus der Khetshua-Sprache' (Leipzig: Brockhaus) contains the summary results of a life-long study and literary activity devoted to the languages and people of Peru. The main purpose of the author was to show the historic evolution of the language, not that of furnishing grammatical rules and paradigms to the students of Khetshua. Fair specimens of his method are the discussions on the gutturals, on some of the nominal cases, and on the plural ending -*kuna*, in which -*na* is the real suffix of plurality. Frequently he has to defend his views against contrary opinions, and his polemics against Lopez, Nodal, Pacheco-Zegarra assume sometimes an acrimonious character. Even a tyro in the study of Khetshua can derive great benefit from the volume, which is remarkable for the perspicuity of its statements, although paradigms are to be found in it only to a limited extent. The bibliography, the remarks on sister-dialects, and three extensive texts are very valuable additions to the book. The introduction is of an ethnographic character: it classifies the various South American languages into

families; speaks of the physical characteristics, complexion, etc., of the American natives, of the climate, topography, animals, and plants of the Peruvian highlands; and of the political changes in Peruvian history and aboriginal life. This section contains many assertions of a rather startling nature, as that the Khetshua-speaking people came originally from the north (about Quito); that the Aimará language belongs to another family than the Khetshua, viz., the Kolla family, etc. Von Tschudi's views concerning the totality of the American language-families may be summed up in the result, expressed in a negative form on page 125: "We are not yet entitled, from the little we know of them, to assume that they are not deducible from one another (L. Adam's opinion); nor can we assume that all these forms of speech show an embryonic similarity, and that the languages, now differing so largely, owe this discrepancy only to divergence in their evolution in time (Forchhammer's idea)." Evidently, the embryonic similarity observed is merely the fact that all American languages are agglutinative, and many of them largely polysynthetic; but this does not by any means explain the total discrepancy in the radical syllables of the various linguistic stocks.

THOMAS'S BIOGRAPHICAL DICTIONARY, REVISED.

Universal Pronouncing Dictionary of Biography and Mythology. By Joseph Thomas, M.D., LL.D., author of the system of pronunciation in 'Lippincott's Pronouncing Gazetteer of the World,' of 'A Comprehensive Medical Dictionary,' and of various pronouncing vocabularies of biographical and geographical names. New edition, thoroughly revised and greatly enlarged. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Company.

IN a review of the first edition of this work, written after the appearance of one-third of it, and published in No. 255 of the *Nation*, we said:

"We must declare it the best as well as the most comprehensive book of its description, emanating from the pen of one writer—in any language—which has come under our notice. . . . What the comprehensive scholarship, perseverance, energy, and critical accuracy of one man may fairly be expected to do in this field, our author has amply done."

We qualified this approbation by emphasizing, what it implied, that, after all, a cyclopaedia of universal biography, "if not done by a number of scholars, each elaborating his special branch, can at the best be an excellent compilation"—which Doctor Thomas's work was "on a vast scale." We praised its fulness, fairness, bibliographical richness, plainness of style, elaborate pronunciation of names, and—in justice to the publisher—the excellence of its mechanical execution. We pointed out some omissions of titles, alluded to more frequent omissions of facts and defective descriptions, and specified a few slight inaccuracies in dates, adding, "Even errors so slight as these are exceedingly rare."

Since writing that review—fifteen years ago—we have used Doctor Thomas's 'Dictionary of Biography' almost constantly, as one of the handiest (on account of its conciseness) of the larger books of reference in our possession. For six years, while engaged in literary labor demanding incessant examination of biographical facts and dates, and critical comparison of authorities, the present writer daily turned over its pages again and again, marking on the margins the tangible slips discovered. Now, being thus fully familiar with its contents and execution, we cannot but leave unmodified the judgment passed on its merits in 1870. Referring our readers to our statements of that date, we limit our

present remarks to the additions in the revised edition before us. And here, too, we must say, after close examination, that the Advertisement by the Publishers, which stands in lieu of a preface to the new edition, tells what is substantially true when it says: "Great pains have been taken not only to include within its pages appropriate notices of all persons who have risen to any considerable degree of prominence since the issue of the first edition, but also to make such revisions in certain of the original articles as the lapse of time has rendered necessary to bring the accounts of the subjects down to the present date." And we have no reason to doubt that the statement which follows, that "several thousand new articles now for the first time appear, while of the revisions and expansions of original notices . . . many thousand instances will come to the notice of the reader," is equally correct.

Our own experience is this: We have looked for and found notices, not contained in the original edition, of Schweinfurth, Nachtigal, Munzinger, Cameron, Serpa-Pinto, Lenz, Fedchenko, Przhevalski, Greely—but not of Brazza; of Kuenen, Wellhausen, Robertson Smith, Friedrich Delitzsch, Dümichen, Ebers, Sayce, Lazarus Geiger—but not of Oort, Ménant, or Darmesteter; of Tchernyshevski, Telstoi, De Amicis, De Gubernatis, Dóczy, Daudet, Leroy-Beaulieu, Lauzel—but not of J. E. Thorold Rogers, Sheldon Amos, William Minto, Edward Fitzgerald, J. G. Romanes, Edward Caird, H. Labouchere, or Fortuné du Boisgobey; of Howells, James, Julian Hawthorne, Cable, Eugene Schuyler, Higginson, Chadwick, MacMaster, Swinton, Whitelaw Reid, Medill; of Grévy, Faidherbe, Chanzy, Bourbaki, Frossard, Clémenceau, Spuller—but not of Chaudoré or Barodet; of Kálmoky, Tisza, Hohenlohe—but not of Taaffe; of Bennigsen, Lasker, Bamberger—but not of Treitschke, Richter, Bebel, or Stöcker; of Sagasta, Zorilla, Figueras, Cánovas del Castillo—but not of Pavia or Martos; of Skobeleff, Gurko, Tcherniayeff, Kaufmann, Melikoff, Fadjeff, Dragomanoff, Aksakoff—but not of Katkov; of Midhat, Osman, Mukhtar, Fuad, Arabi, and Aleko Pashas—but not of Suleiman, of Milan of Servia, Nicholas of Montenegro, Alexander of Bulgaria, El-Mahdi, and Tewfik; of Hobart, Gordon, Burnaby, and Forbes—but not of Valentine Baker or MacGahan.

Some of the omissions are evidently due to oversights, others to laudable discrimination. Transient notoriety does not, in Doctor Thomas's eyes, entitle one to a niche in a biographical dictionary. Hence we also look in vain for Zhelyaboff or Sophia Perovskaya, Hödel or Nobiling. That there is no allusion to the attempts of the last two regicides in the notice of Emperor William is perhaps less defensible. Nor is there any allusion to the Prussian *Culturkampf* under that head or under "Bismarck." There is also much looseness of expression in the former notice: The battles of Courcelles, Mars-la-Tour, and Gravelotte are designated collectively "a great battle near Metz (August 14 18)." The fights at Beaumont and Sedan are also coupled into one "great battle." "Bavaria and Baden in August, 1866," stands for Bavaria, Württemberg, and Baden, etc. The date of Aurelle de Paladines's victory near Orleans as given here ("9th of November") is, on the other hand, more correct than "November 10," under "Palladines . . . (D'Aurelles)." Why the author has chosen this form of the general's name, referring to it under "Paladines," but not under "Aurelle," is not clear; ours we have before us in the diaries of George Sand, Claretie, and D'Arcy, in Vapereau, Brockhaus, etc., etc.

The new notices are generally ampler than the additions to the old ones—which will surprise nobody familiar with cyclopaedic work of this kind.

Some of the expansions are very meagre, indeed. Compare, for instance, "Gladstone," "Disraeli" "Grant," or "Victor Emmanuel." "Kraszewski" and "Pulszky" are striking instances of the entire absence of needed continuations. Freshness, on the other hand, is constantly evinced by insertions of late dates of decease. The latest we have noticed are "July 23, 1885," under "Grant," "July 28, 1885," under "Montefiore," and "August 11, 1885," under "Milnes (R. M.)"; the prefatory Advertisement being dated August, 1885. Sir J. E. Alexander, Georg Curtius, and William Veitch, who also died before the latest of the above dates, have been overlooked. The wonted accuracy in rendering foreign names and titles occasionally fails: "Babylonisch Ketinschriften" (in "Schrader") is misprinted German; "Czók" ("Dóczy") bad Magyar; "Ozto-dielat" ("Tchernyshevsky") worse Russian. "Skobeleff," "Tcherniayeff," "Fadjeff," show an inconsistency in transliterating which we ought not to meet with in so admirable a compilation.

A general revision of the entire old text, for the sake of improved correctness and uniformity, has not taken place. It would have been too vast a task. Still, we could have wished that Doctor Thomas's cautious "about" had been occasionally exchanged for the precise date; as, the spring of 1851 for "about 1850," as the date of John Stuart Mill's marriage; October 24, 1829, for "about 1830" as the date of John Veitch's birth, etc. Und *r* "Robert Chambers" should have been inserted the fact of his having written 'The Vestiges of Creation.' We cannot account for the fact that the first edition of this Dictionary mentioned in the notice of George Eliot her marriage to Mr. Lewes, while the present edition makes no allusion to Lewes under "George Eliot," nor to George Eliot under "Lewes." The bibliographical references of 1870 had not a few shortcomings that might have been repaired, but these have rather been increased than diminished. Thus, under "Abinger," one is referred to review articles only, though Scarlett's biography was published in 1877. Under "John Adams," "Jefferson," "Monroe," "Hamilton," "Randolph," "Webster," the work is silent as to the recently published lives of those worthies, while, as regards our literary heroes, admirers of Poe will be shocked to find that all the recent vindications, as well as Woolberry's 'Life,' are ignored, Griswold's memoir being the only work recognized. The same is true of the biographies of Irving, Cooper, Willis, Noah Webster, Emerson, though those of Margaret Fuller and Thoreau are given. Under "Bonaparte," neither Jung nor Böthlingk is mentioned, nor is Seeley's 'Stein.' Still stranger is the omission of any reference under Prince Albert; the Princess Alice (Grand Duchess of Hesse) is not mentioned even in the text. Alison's Autobiography (1882) is ignored, as are the two lives of Governor Andrew, all the recent lives (since 1865) of Mendelssohn, Thayer's 'Beethoven,' etc., etc.

Not by way of censure, but as a service to such of our readers as may own this work, we conclude our notice with a few errata. There are two notices of one and the same person—Robert and Robert William Buchanan. Henry James's 'Female Poets and Novelists' should be 'French Poets and Novelists'; Mrs. Southworth's 'Curse of Clifford' should be 'Curse of Clifton'; Sir Walter Scott's 'The Red Gauntlet' should be 'Redgauntlet.' James Thomson was born at Port Glasgow, not at "Port Greenock." Under "Savonarola," the reference is to vol. 1 of the *Living Age*, instead of vol. 50. William Motherwell was born October 13, 1797 (not "1798"); Wm. Lloyd Garrison, December 10, 1805 (not "December 12, 1804"—a pardonable error); George Eliot, November 22, 1820 (not "1819").

RECENT NOVELS.

A Wheel of Fire. By Arlo Bates. Charles Scribner's Sons.

Love—Or a Name. By Julian Hawthorne. Boston: Ticknor & Co.

Healey. By Jessie Fothergill. [Leisure Hour Series.] Henry Holt & Co.

A Family Affair. By Hugh Conway. [Leisure Hour Series.] Henry Holt & Co.

The Prophet of the Great Smoky Mountains. By Charles Egbert Craddock. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co.

Andromeda. By George Fleming. Boston: Roberts Brothers.

A THOUGHTFUL person will more than once turn from the book while reading 'A Wheel of Fire' to speculate upon the characteristics of the mind that could busy itself in such a way upon such a subject. A woman, still young, has spent all her mature years in terror of inherited madness. Her mother dies mad before her. Her brother hangs himself in his bed-room. The blessing of happy love given and returned comes to her, but at the very hour set for her marriage she goes raving mad, and dies in a week. Ghastly is the mildest word that will describe the book. The purpose of it is a mystery. If it were to excite horror, the lovers of that could find it already in the famous French novel that describes madness with the last accuracy of science. Mr. Bates has not even attempted to rival that. There is not, on the other hand, the tracing of the effect upon character from this dread, either in the heroine or upon her friends, which would have led into that study of the conflict of the human spirit with inevitable destiny which has always stimulated the imagination. There is no change or growth in the heroine, and as to her friends, they simply do not believe anything about it. There is not a scene or incident that is aught but painful, so that, accept what view we may of the purpose of fiction—to instruct, to amuse, to elevate—this has no reason for existence.

The notion that any intelligent critic speaks from personal bias was long since dismissed from circles that appreciate either good literature or good criticism, but only too few people have yet taken in the further idea that the more intelligent the critic, the more anxious he is not to bring forward his own judgments at all (no matter how impartial), but to ally himself with the great authorities before him—not this or that man who has devised a clever critical apparatus, but the true authorities, the great works themselves, that stand for all the world to make comparisons by. And since all the world has been making comparisons these many years, it follows that the critic finds that some things are settled; and often and often he wishes that those who begin to write could be compelled to follow the same road he has travelled, where they would find out that for them, too, some things are settled. The art of fiction is no new art. Nothing is older. Our novel is only the latest form of it. There is a long line of recorded experience, full of lessons that ought to be studied. There is no other art where any one dreams of succeeding without, at first, long study of what has been done before, of what has been found possible and what impossible, or, to repeat our own phrase, what things are settled. If the author of 'A Wheel of Fire' should set about such study, he would find for himself better than any one could tell him what subjects are fit for fiction, what are the possible limits of tragedy, and why his own tale is too monstrous to be artistic. He may already have gone so far as to find a small school that devotes itself to "the flowers of evil." The verse may be exquisite, but there are few that heed

those writers. To follow their example is to shut one's self up in an ever narrowing circle. If Mr. Bates will look beyond these men, he will find that the Olympians, in whatever tongue, have embodied the terror, the pain of the world in strength and beauty, not in the horrible, the hideous.

Mr. Hawthorne, too, has not learned wisdom in the choice of subject. No one could open 'Love—Or a Name' a second time, supposing it possible to read the dreadful tale to the end even once. It is the greater pity, for the first half is of his best. Some one might even say better than his best, for the sake of the naturalness of the early chapters. If he meant to elaborate the thought he suggests in the sentence, "We are misled most of all by success, which seems the test of merit, but is never given in this world as a reward; it is only the most inscrutable of the dispensations of Providence," no finer theme could have been chosen to show the working out of character, nor one more timely for these very days; but he has only hinted it, and turned aside to hackneyed melodramatic incident till he winds up with a situation too brutal to be matched among savages.

It is an ill-fortune that brings before us at the same moment a third such book. We only pause to warn off the reader from 'Healey.' Jessie Fothergill has fallen far below the promise of 'The First Violin.' Such ingenuity of evil as she has imagined for her hero can only excite a wondering disgust. Is it not possible for novel-writers to learn that no lasting fame, not even transient popularity, can ever be attained by books that every one will strive to forget?

'A Family Affair' must remain the measure of what Hugh Conway could accomplish. He succeeded in the vigorous short story of the comparatively harmless sensational type, and the present work is neither more nor less than the first from his hand. It is rather a collection than a well-ordered whole, the personages having no real dependence on each other except in the chance contiguities of time and place. Break it up into six pieces, and each would stand by itself by simply changing the names. There are always enough people, children of a larger growth, who are delighted with a straight-away narrative, without reflection and without depth, to make such work popular. Hugh Conway never goes below the surface, even though subjects far better than any of his lie in plain sight there. For instance, in 'Carriston's Gift,' a short story in a prior "Leisure Hour" volume, he passes a rare chance without suspecting it. He busies himself only with the old themes of presentations, ghostly visitations, etc. Not the man who has "second-sight," but the man who is afraid he shall have it, would be the novel figure. We commend him to the seekers for a plot. They would have modern rationalism on their side, not against them, as Mr. Conway had.

'The Prophet of the Great Smoky Mountains' has been so widely read in the *Atlantic* that we proceed at once to comments which presuppose an acquaintance with the story. Like 'In the Tennessee Mountains,' it is a picture of manners, using the word in that large sense which includes all the complicated relations of thing, animate and inanimate, that make up the circumstance of life. It has the same strongly etched outline and the same vivid color. If the impression is anything less, it is only because the first gave the surprise of entire freshness. There is the same effect of dealing with life as a whole—with a community, a class, rather than with an individual. As we said of the first book at the time, it gives us, "not lives, but life"; therefore it happens that while there are not the single figures that take hold of us intimately as positive exist-

ences, there would not be in all that land a man or woman a stranger to us, so well do we know the sky and the mountains that surround their days, and the changing events that fill them. Hitherto Miss Murfree had not chosen for her main purpose the presentation of character. In saying this, we are not supposing entire separation of manners and character to be possible; but in a novel the one will appear only for the sake of the other, according to the intention of the writer. The title of the present book points to the conclusion that it had here been the author's intention to put character foremost, and that the so-called Prophet was meant to be the central figure. As an actual fact, he is hardly so much as a distinct figure at all. We know him only as we should know the mountain itself, through the drifting mist and the sudden cloud-rifts of a day of storm.

The author's hold upon her reader is strong enough to carry him on to the climax with acquiescent sympathy in her working out of her plot. Reflection, however, will bring persistent doubts. Self-sacrifice is the grandest or the poorest of human actions, according to motives. Of these we are left in the darkness of conjecture. The catastrophe becomes merely one of the horrible incidents of a semi-outlawed manner of life. For us it has nothing to do with character. The author becomes the mere narrator of facts, a historian. She is not the clairvoyant of the earlier chapter, reading, in the quick glance of the Prophet's eye, "fire, inspiration, frenzy—who can say?" It was a question she herself was expected to answer. If the Prophet were really her subject, she has done her own original conception scant justice. She has deserted it, to give us instead separate pictures (all strong, we admit) of detached groups. Nor are the pictures placed directly before us. It is surprising that so large a proportion of the book is second-hand. We are told, not how this or that was in itself, but how somebody saw it. The method is an accepted one for special purposes, but, used to such an extent as this, it materially weakens the effect. Moreover, as the groups are all thrown against the same general background, there comes a slight weariness of descriptive phrases too little unlike not to seem repetition. Landscape painting in a novel is, after all, only costume on the grand scale, and one story will carry off successfully only a certain amount of it.

Even with these serious deductions, the story is another brilliant promise for the future. Each book has left the impression that the author is still trying her powers. 'Down the Ravine' proves that the lack of unity of effect in this last book is not because Miss Murfree does not know what it means. That little story fills out its *cadre* as perfectly as a crystal shapes itself to the law of its line. It is only needful to submit the chosen material to a like ordering of development to reach success in the larger work. Again, in this new heroine, Dorinda, we have what the Prophet is not—clearly defined character growing through its joy and sorrow to full stature before us. There is not a wavering line, not an inharmonious tint, in the whole of it. We know her as we know no other personage from Miss Murfree's hand.

Nor is it for lack of spiritual insight that the Prophet is left but an intangible shadow, and we ourselves made but mere spectators of the outward show of life. In all the overcrowding and the abrupt transitions of 'Where the Battle was Fought,' there was one situation which could have been found only by that divining instinct which makes of imagination a revealer. When the pretended John Fortescue, stung by the supposed betrayal of his tempter, is about to disclose the plot, his remorseful conscience believes that the dead friend to whose memory he has been ut-

terly treacherous stands before him. That moment his crime is punished, not by the law he has outraged, not even by the reproach of her whom he would have robbed, but by his own recoil upon himself. Against his own soul most of all had he sinned, and from it and within it he finds the keenest and bitterest punishment he can suffer. Such beginnings justify the enthusiastic expectations of Miss Murfree's admirers, but the work of matured and balanced power is yet to come.

If 'Andromeda' has more of pure narrative and less of drama than George Fleming has accustomed us to expect from her, it is still a very touching story of self-sacrifice, wrought with great delicacy. The name is given to the heroine in half-playful earnest at the outset by one who is watching with eyes already alert with yearning affection; but only a small bit of the old myth will fit her story, for Perseus, when Perseus comes, is bound by every instinct of loyalty to leave her to her fate. What follows after, deals with motives of self-denial and patience, of which the careless ease of demi-gods and mythical heroes knew nothing. "For to have a will and a conscience, Richard reflected, means chiefly to possess the power, amidst the world's wild struggle, of enforcing one's own decision against one's self."

The tale is romantic, if one pleases to use the phrase; but so long as there is any ideal left to human consciousness, hearts will thrill with the admiration of high-heartedness. Besides, George Fleming knows the power of a wise restraint. To it she owes the artistic perfection of her pictures, and from it no less comes her fine discrimination in moral forces. The healthful atmosphere of the book gives it an importance apart from its literary merit. The chief situation is the same that has oftenest been used for evil example—a woman betrothed to one man, but loving his friend, who in turn loves her. That the author has chosen to show not sin and ruin, but how pure and noble souls may save themselves in such peril, is another welcome witness against the theory that a story cannot be vivid or exciting without the appeal to the passions of sense. The tale is somewhat broken. It does not all lie in one clear light, as did 'Vestigia,' but for single scenes we should call it the author's best. They are true drama, the characters developing themselves before our very eyes. Many readers would pronounce the final explanation between San Donati and Clare most effective. A keener sense will prefer the scene amid the heather, in the sunshine of the mountain pass. Its very simplicity makes the charm more subtle. There is throughout the same happy, pellucid style, carrying its beauty in itself, as it were—not seeking it as an added ornament. All the way, an undertone is delicately hinted. The full chord is a minor one, for the notes of joy are not struck till just as the strain passes out of our hearing. The minor lingers even with them, until the undertone rises and blends them into one harmony. It is the hope, the faith in compensation. Said the old nurse Monica: "Oh! my dear master, the blessed saints up there put all the little good things in life just on purpose to make up for—the big ones." "Surely you don't think death like a disappointment?" asks Clare. San Donati's words, as he declares his love to her, strangely foreshadow his own fate and yet embody its consolation: "The visions were vouchsafed to those to whom the world gave nothing, and heaven opens before the eyes of men who live in desert places."

The Greville Memoirs. (Second Part.) A Journal of the Reign of Queen Victoria from 1837 to 1852. By the late Charles C. F. Greville, Esq., Clerk of the Council. London: Longmans, Green & Co.; New York: D. Appleton Co. 1885.

THE second instalment of the Greville Memoirs is not so entertaining as the first, though it is perhaps of more permanent value. It presents a picture of the author's times, and has also a certain autobiographical value, for the confidences of Mr. Greville with his reader are abundant. It is possible to gather from his pages a tolerably accurate idea of the man, and, as has been so often said, any man can make an interesting book if he will only tell the truth about his own life. Mr. Greville was a man of the world and a courtier, who, qualified by his training and surroundings to be a gossip, became by sheer force of character something more important. Modesty and candor are perhaps the qualities which, as his character matures, seem to become most striking in him, and his complaints about his wasted life, and his regrets over lost opportunities, are so *naïf* as to be almost amusing. Yet his character and style in general are not at all *naïf*. No one would ever think of comparing him to Pepys, and no one will ever derive from his journals the kind of pleasure that is to be found in the childlike frankness of that great diarist. The value of Mr. Greville's work is chiefly that of accurate and painstaking political memoirs.

Brought up in the old order of things, and a member of a society on which the democratic tendencies of our day had had an awakening, but as yet no disorganizing effect, he remained to his dying day a spectator of the march of modern events without having his views colored by an active party interest. He was not, on the one hand, a Conservative in the partisan sense of the word (his book on Ireland seems greatly to have disgusted the Tories), nor was he, on the other hand, a man of "broad," "progressive" views as to the destiny of mankind which he wished to see embodied in political action. In fact, it may be said that he was a Liberal with no "views" at all, except that among gentlemen a certain code of morality was obligatory, and that Government ought to be carried on by gentlemen. He was almost the ideal man of business of a constitutional court, in which the sovereign's government is carried on alternately by both parties, but where the sovereign, by the nature of her position, is averse to "Radicals."

Mr. Greville had no more sympathy for Radicalism than he had for Buddhism. One would have been as foreign to the order of thought in which he was born and brought up as the other; and this is precisely one of the facts which make his journal so valuable. He watched the course of affairs, and the character of the men who took part in public affairs—Brougham's antics, Melbourne's amiable cynicism, Peel's mutations, Palmerston's audacity, Cobden's speeches, the anti-corn-law agitation, O'Connell's trial—with the eye of a highly intelligent observer who did not profess for a moment to possess the key of it all in a comprehension of or sympathy with the great popular movements which were threatening to upheave the foundations of English society; who, in fact, would have considered it a mere piece of pretence to profess to have such a key. He consequently did not measure people, as we are nowadays so fond of doing, by their devotion to "causes," or by their success in creating a sensation, but by the old-fashioned conservative tests of character—gifts, attainments, and intrinsic merits. He seems to have had a good deal of taste and capacity for judging character, and the portraits he draws of the distinguished men and women with whom his life

brought him in contact, generally drawn with more than common care, are of considerable interest. One or two extracts will give an idea of his powers in this way. Of Sydney Smith's wit he says:

"If there was a fault in it, it was that it was too amusing. People so entirely expected to be made to die of laughing, and he was so aware of this, that there never seemed to be any question of conversation when he was of the party, or at least no more than just to afford Sydney pegs to hang his jokes on."

Of Lord Brougham, whom he certainly did not like, he writes in 1844:

"None but Brougham himself can be his parallel; no other man would have dared to get up and, in the presence of at least half-a-dozen men who knew the whole truth, deliberately and vehemently tell a parcel of impudent lies—lies, too, which, if he succeeds in his object, must be exposed to the whole world. But one of his most curious characteristics is his utter shamelessness."

His analysis of Lady Holland's character is neat and classical:

"Although she was known to be wholly destitute of religious opinions, she never encouraged any irreligious talk in her house. She never herself spoke disrespectfully or with levity of any of the institutions or opinions which other people were accustomed to reverence; nor did she at any time, even during periods of the greatest political violence, suffer any disloyal language towards the sovereign, nor encourage any fierce philippic, still less any ribaldry against political opponents. It was her great object while her society was naturally and inevitably of a political color, to establish in it such a tone of moderation and general toleration that no person of any party, opinion, profession, or persuasion might feel any difficulty in coming to her house, and she took care that no one who did should ever have reason to complain of being offended or annoyed, still less shocked or insulted under her roof. Never was anybody more invariably kind to her servants, or more solicitous for their comfort. In this, probably selfish considerations principally moved her: it was essential to her comfort to be diligently and zealously served, and she secured by her conduct to them their devoted attachment. It used often to be said in joke that they were very much better off than her guests."

Several pages are devoted to Peel and his peculiar relations with his party, of which Mr. Greville gives the following very simple, and, we believe, perfectly accurate explanation:

"There was an unexpressed but complete difference in their understanding and his of the obligations by which the Government and the party were mutually connected. They considered Peel to be not only the Minister, but the creature, of the Conservative party, bound above all things to support and protect their especial interests according to their own views and opinions. He considered himself the Minister of the nation, whose mission it was to redress the balance which mistaken maxims or partial legislation had deranged, and to combine the interest of all classes in one homogeneous system, by which the prosperity and happiness of the whole commonwealth would be promoted."

Of the Duke of Wellington we get a very complete picture. Mr. Greville was thrown a good deal into his society, and had the warm attachment to his character that all Englishmen, and especially all conservative Englishmen of his class, had. But it is useless to enumerate instances. A glance at the index of these volumes serves to show that Mr. Greville knew every one who was worth knowing, and who had any acknowledged position in society or Government, in his day, and has something to say about them all. The tone of his criticism in this last instalment of his diary is much more agreeable than that of the first. As he grew older, his opinions and feelings seem to have mellowed, while his interests became broader and more generous. To the last he remains an accomplished courtier, and in a certain sense of the word a gossip. He is always a man of detail and of consummate breeding. He gives, himself, an amusing instance of this in the case of a visit to the Queen,

which he had to make (owing to an attack of the gout) on crutches. He records himself as much pleased with the success with which he *sidled* out of the room so as to avoid the rudeness of turning his back on the Queen. His interests, as we have said, are mainly in persons; he is not an historian so much as an observer of people; he gives the details of all the transactions in which he took a part, and his impressions of all the people with whom he came in contact, and thus his pages, without constituting history in the true sense of the word, throw interesting sidelights upon it.

The American Caucus System. Its Origin, Purpose, and Utility. By George W. Lawton. G. P. Putnam's Sons. 1885.

THE first rule for any writer who proposes to treat of a subject which is not very attractive or clear in itself, should be to so form his sentences that his readers may not be puzzled to find out what he really means to say. In this respect Mr. Lawton leaves much to be desired. For example, it requires a second thought to read a sentence constructed and punctuated like the following: "It was a cardinal rule of one of the most sagacious of American politicians, to go into caucus in support of measures, primarily and secondarily, in support of men."

The caucus, as Mr. Lawton gives its history from the time of Moses down through the States of Greece and the British Islands, is really a very simple institution, being nothing more than an assemblage of the people to consult as to measures to be adopted and men to carry them out. What has given the word its obnoxious significance in this country is the fact that the primary meetings have come to have very little to do with measures at all, and merely form a machinery by which politicians distribute at their pleasure places of power and profit, by no means always legitimate. The reluctance of the best citizens to attend such meetings, where they are merely used as tools, has become a well-established fact, and it is curious that one of the remedies which have been occasionally proposed was in use in Rhode Island in 1836, where any citizen who had been notified to attend town meeting and did not appear within a quarter of an hour after it opened, was fined a shilling and sixpence. Such perfunctory attendance may have been of use then, but would be of little avail now.

Mr. Lawton is very severe upon what he calls the system of self-nominations, quoting the instances of Burke at Liverpool and Macaulay at Edinburgh, and Abraham Lincoln and Henry Clay in this country. The open-minded reader may have some doubt whether the statesmen who are presented to us by the modern caucuses offer convincing proof of the superiority of this method. However, Mr. Lawton decidedly prefers the caucus system, though we cannot see that his somewhat desultory snatches at our political history throw any particular light upon its working, or discover in his rules for conducting a caucus any remedy for its confessed evils. In fact, these evils are in their origin wholly outside of the caucus, and may be summed up in the sentence with which the book closes, and which the writer apparently regards as a triumphant vindication of his favorite method—

"the watchword being, 'Every elector to unite in caucus with his neighbor, to be represented in a convention to nominate men for public office—the legislator to make the laws, the executive to execute them, the judge to point out their application.'"

It is just because law-making is intrusted to a haphazard body of men, without leadership and without individual responsibility, working in secret committees and under lobby pressure, with no reference to administration either past or

future; and because execution is intrusted to another body of men who have had no voice in shaping the laws they are administering, and cannot be held to public accountability for any failures or credited for any success—it is for these reasons that the citizens will not attend meetings where, instead of discussing practical measures, they are put off with glittering generalities, and, instead of selecting agents to carry on their Government, they can merely ratify nominations of placemen made by unseen intriguers.

J. F. Millet. Par Charles Yriarte, Inspecteur des Beaux-Arts. Bibliothèque d'Art Moderne. Paris: Jules Rouau; New York: Christern. 1885.

THIS little monograph gives, in its twenty-three pages of text, a very fair and full notion of the place of Millet as an artist. It is a piece of sound French criticism, written in the clear, easy French style. Its principal characteristic is that reasonableness and lack of exaggeration which are so rare in other than French criticism, and which, in this case, to an admirer of the artist of whom M. Yriarte writes, might almost seem coldness and insufficient admiration of that great genius. One almost grudges so much concession to the unappreciative. But the praise, when it is given, is all the more effective for this dispassionateness and candor; and, having learned that no more is said than is meant, one finds that quite enough is said to satisfy the greatest lover of Millet's work.

There is no attempt at biography beyond a bare date or two, but there is a short appreciation of Millet's character as a man. A few lines from the beginning and from the end of the book give very compactly the lesson of Millet's life: "The artist belongs by his origin and his tendencies to that pleiad of contemporary French painters who, while professing admiration for the masters and respecting their traditions, went directly to nature for their inspiration and for their methods of execution." And again: "He was the contemporary of all of us (his death dates from but a few years back), yet, nevertheless, we can say that he belongs to an epoch when the first care of an artist was that of production, and not that of the brilliant outlet his work might find." This combination of reverence for art and its traditions with the power and the determination to study nature for himself, and to follow fearlessly wherever nature might lead, and this singleness of mind, were the great characteristics of Millet, as of all true artists. The innovators are often the true followers of the masters, for they do what the masters did before them.

The illustrations are of varying merit, the facsimiles of Millet's own drawings being by far the best. Among the most impressive of these are the "Jeune mère préparant le repas de sa famille," with its Michaelangelesque grandeur of line and gesture, and the delightful "Soins maternels," which, as an instance of the successful treatment in art of a subject that, before seeing the drawing, one would have thought vulgar, is to be recommended to the prudish.

Studies in Shakespeare. By Richard Grant White. 8vo, pp. 383. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co.

FEW students of Shakspere leave behind them an enduring reputation. They but drift across and about his resplendence, sometimes illuminated by him, sometimes beclouding him, like fleeting mists of the air against the sunlight; and such studies as are contained in this volume have only a very evanescent interest. Mr. Grant White's lack of large or profound scholarship was always a hindrance to his treating the subjects he wrote upon with either force or delicacy; and it is matter for

regret that he exposed himself to criticisms as an author which as an editor he was comparatively secure from. It is characteristic of the quality of his mind that among these papers those on the acting of some of Shakspere's characters are much more adequate than those upon the plays themselves.

The volume is in four sections, as it were. The first three papers are "On Reading Shakespeare." They contain some sensible hints to would-be readers, and close with a not idle diatribe against "Shakspere Clubs." He approves, as every one must, of clubs when necessary for obtaining books, but he says, excellently, "All other Shakespeare clubs are mere vanity. The true Shakespeare lover is a club unto himself." The next section is four papers of "Narrative Analysis"—that is, the plots of "Macbeth," "Hamlet," "Othello," and "As You Like It" told in a manner which is quite without value of any kind. To read of *Macbeth* as a "brave, good-natured, loving, but selfish, weak-souled, and unprincipled man," can interpret the play to no one. The next four papers are "Miscellanies," and include one on "The Bacon-Shakespeare Craze," which opens strangely by declaring it to be of no sort of importance who wrote the plays, and concludes more reasonably by asserting that the notion that Bacon wrote them is not worth five minutes' serious consideration. The last section is on "Expositors," and consists of two papers sharply and sometimes ably criticising Mr. Dyce, an *Edinburgh Reviewer* of 1869, Doctor Schmidt, and Mr. W. S. Walker. In these pages Mr. White is at his best; but it should be said that his frequent misconceptions and misrepresentations of Doctor Schmidt's admirable "Lexicon" are extremely misleading.

M. Tulli Ciceronis Academica: The Text Revised and Explained by James S. Reid, M.L., of Cambridge University, England. 8vo, pp. 8, 372. Macmillan.

THE "Academica" has been among the most neglected of Cicero's writings. Although the text has received some attention, no edition which aimed to interpret the subject-matter was put forth in England from 1725, when that by Davies appeared, to 1874. On the Continent the latest explanatory edition is that by Goerenz, published in 1810. The book before us is not a second edition of that issued by the same editor in 1874, but an independent and much more extended work. In his text Mr. Reid is on the whole conservative, retaining and defending many readings questioned or rejected by Halm, Baiter, Madvig, and others. His choice of readings is characterized by sound sense, and evinces an intimate familiarity with the Latinity of Cicero. His own conjectures are not as numerous as one might have expected, but are often felicitous; as *quidquid* for *quod*, p. 324, l. 5; *adhiberet*, p. 307, l. 25. The change of *sit* to *est*, p. 304, l. 5, is perhaps hardly warranted or necessary. The orthography is admirable, embodying the best established results of the study of inscriptions.

The elucidation of the subject-matter is full, and passes no important point without comment. The editor has evidently brought to this part of his work a wide and thorough knowledge of the Greco-Roman philosophy. A careful study of the Greek philosophic terms which Cicero was rendering, has been utilized with marked success. Difficulties are squarely met; conclusions are not forced dogmatically on the reader, but are so carefully drawn and judiciously stated that they will rarely be disputed. An introduction of eighty-three pages presents an abundance of information helpful to the study of the work. The first part in particular, on Cicero as a student of philosophy, his philosophic

opinions, and the aim and value of his philosophic writings, is worthy of special attention. Several views at variance with generally received opinions are advanced and ably maintained. The crisp and lucid English of both introduction and commentary is to be heartily commended. The present edition of the 'Academica' will take rank among the most valuable recent contributions to English classical scholarship.

Harbors and Docks: Their Physical Features, History, Construction, Equipment, and Maintenance, with Statistics as to their Commercial Development. By Leveson Francis Vernon Harcourt, M.A. 2 vols. Oxford: The Clarendon Press; New York: Macmillan. 1885.

THIS book is a handsomely printed octavo, the first volume, which is all text, containing about 700 pages, and the second volume consisting exclusively of plates. The first chapters contain some crude theories as to the natural phenomena which affect the conditions of harbors, and some cursory statements as to tides, changes in coast lines, and other matters. The volume, however, is principally descriptive, and contains a mass of undigested information which has been compiled from various official reports and other sources accessible in a good engineering library. The writer appears to have collected and written without appreciating, and the result is a compilation too unsystematic to be of value as a textbook, but which, with the aid of the complete index that accompanies it, may be useful in the same manner that an encyclopedic is. It is very important, however, that a book of this kind should be thoroughly accurate in its statements, and the small number of references to the authorities used and general superficial character of the treatment are not such as to inspire the reader with confidence in the accuracy of this one. The arrangement of the plates in a volume by themselves is a very convenient one.

Bryant and His Friends: Some Reminiscences of the Knickerbocker Writers. By James Grant Wilson. Fords, Howard & Hulbert. 1886.

THIS volume consists mainly of extended reprints of articles on Bryant, Paulding, Dana, and Drake, filled out by briefer sketches of Halléck, Cooper, Irving, Willis, Poe, Taylor, and paragraphs on some twenty of the literary lights of old New York. It has been the fortune of the author to have held more or less close personal relations with the school he celebrates, and hence he has included some new letters by a few of the authors, principally Paulding, Poe, and Halléck, whose biographer he was. Nothing material is thus added to our knowledge. The whole is conceived in the vein of a New York paean, and its character in the way of criticism is fully indicated by its closing words in regard to the merit of the "Knickerbockers," for whom the author claims Bryant, Poe, and Cooper, as compared with the Bostonians, of whom he instances Prescott, Emerson, Hawthorne, and Longfellow. "When a very great man was asked by the writer for his opinion on this point, he answered, 'They cannot be compared any more than you would compare the commerce of the city of Boston with that of your great metropolis.' " "Who," he triumphantly asks, "will question the impartial judgment of so competent a critic as Benjamin Disraeli?"

The book, which is of goodly thickness, affords a view of the literary life of New York in the Knickerbocker days, and obtains a semblance of originality from the mere exclusion of those whose walk was elsewhere than on Broadway. It provides no new facts, however; and as the author's ac-

quaintance was mainly with the littérateurs, the personal element counts for little to a time that has small need of the Themistoclean prayer—"Teach me rather to forget." The Knickerbocker school, in its old sense, has already received its *Vale*.

A Handbook of Poetics. For Students of English Verse. By Francis B. Gummere, Ph. D., Boston: Ginn & Co. 1885.

ALTHOUGH this is a small text-book it is by no means elementary. It is a complete view of the structural art of poetry, whether regard be paid to the kind attempted, epic, lyric, or dramatic, or to the rhetorical method by tropes in the widest signification of that term, or to the metrical and stanzaic arrangement. Much space is necessarily occupied, particularly in the earlier portion, with the meaning of names, the terminology of poetics; but the method, generally speaking, is historical, and thus the treatment involves the study of the earlier forms of English verse, as far back as 'Beowulf,' and a special characterization, though brief, of great masters such as Chaucer, Shakspere, and Milton. A thorough acquaintance with the learning of the subject is shown throughout, and the range of examples—a very important matter—is extraordinarily large and varied. The whole makes a student's, but not a schoolboy's, volume; and is to be recommended as the first handy compend of the large amount of erudite research in the history of English verse, rather than as a book for beginners in poetry. There is nothing of the rhyming-dictionary character in it. Essentially it is a sort of supplement to the higher rhetoric, and would be of most use as a subsidiary class-book in the study of English literature.

The Religion of Philosophy; or, The Unification of Knowledge: A comparison of the chief philosophical and religious systems of the world, made with a view to reducing the categories of thought, or the most general terms of existence, to a single principle, thereby establishing a true conception of God. By Raymond S. Perrin. G. P. Putnam's Sons. 1885.

SIX pages would have been ample to set forth the doctrine here diluted to six hundred. Motion is the only existence; time and space merely its phases. Time is identical with force; space with matter. God is the universal principle of motion. In place of arguing these propositions, the author tags them incongruously to sketches of the history of philosophy—sketches nil as arguments, and as history rambling, feeble, and ill-proportioned. Some healthy sentiments about morality and religion are expressed in an easy and pleasing style, but the philosophical conceptions seem to be nebulous, and the method of presenting them unsuccessful.

BOOKS OF THE WEEK.

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 Baker, G. M. *The Globe Drama: Original Plays.* Boston: Lee & Shepard. \$1.50.
 Baker, G. M. *The Popular Speaker.* Boston: Lee & Shepard. \$1.
 Brewster, Emma E. *Parlor Varieties: Plays, Pantomimes, Charades.* Boston: Lee & Shepard. 50 cents.
 Baker, G. M. *The Reading Club, Nos. 15 and 16.* Boston: Lee & Shepard. 15 cents.
 Beardsey, Dr. E. E. *Life and Times of William Samuel Johnson.* LL. D. Second edition. Revised and enlarged. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co. \$2.50.
 Bagwell, R. *Ireland under the Tudors. With a succinct Account of the Earlier History.* 2 vols. London: Longmans.
 Bellamy, E. L. *Language Lessons in Arithmetic.* Boston: Ginn & Co. 85 cents.
 Brooks, Rev. P. *Oration at the Celebration of the 20th Anniversary of the Boston Latin School.* Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co. \$1.
 Codrington, R. H. *The Melanesian Languages.* Oxford: Clarendon Press.
 Collier, R. L. *English Home Life.* Boston: Ticknor & Co. \$1.
 Crane, Prof. T. F. *Italian Popular Tales.* Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co. \$2.50.
 Cremer, Dr. H. *Beyond the Grave.* Harper & Brothers.
 Douglas, Amanda M. *A Woman's Inheritance.* Boston: Lee & Shepard. \$1.50.
 Eggleston, G. C. *Strange Stories from History for Young People.* Illustrated. Harper & Brothers.
 Ewing, Juliana Horatia. *Lo! Lie-by-the-Fire.* E. & J. R. Young & Co. 25 cents.
 Ferguson, Prof. C. *Questions for Classical Students on the First Books of Caesar's Gallic War and Xenophon's Anabasis.* Boston: Ginn & Co. \$1.25.
 Flower-Song Series: *Winter, Spring, Midsummer, White.* Stokes & Allen. \$1.50.
 Flowers from Here and There. White, Stokes & Allen. \$3.50.
 Fobes, W. K. *Five-Minute Declamations.* Boston: Lee & Shepard. 50 cents.
 Gibson, A. M. *A Political Crime: The History of the Great Fraud.* Wm. S. Gottsberger.
 Goodale, Prof. G. L. *Gray's Botanical Text-Book.* Vol. II. *Physiological Botany.* 1. *Outline of the Histology of Phenogamous Plants.* 2. *Vegetable Physiology.* Ivison, Blakiston, Taylor & Co.
 Grant, A. A. *Grant's Railroad and Business Atlas.* 1885. A. A. Grant.
 Greville, C. C. F. *A Journal of the Reign of Queen Victoria from 1837 to 1880.* In 2 vols. D. Appleton & Co. \$4.
 Griswold, Henry. *Donda.* Philadelphia: T. B. Peterson & Bros. 50 cents.
Harper's Young People. 1885. Harper & Brothers.
 Hutchinson, W. F. *A Winter Holiday.* Illustrated. Providence: Providence Press Co.
 Joyce, Col. J. A. *Peculiar Poems.* Thomas R. Knox & Co.
 King, D. W. *Homes for Home Builders; or Practical Designs for Country, Farm and Village.* O. Judd & Co. \$1.50.
Little Cheeks and Baby Tricks. E. P. Dutton & Co. \$1.50.
 Macdonald, F. W. *Fletcher of Madeley.* A. C. Armstrong & Son. 75 cents.
 Macaulay, G. C. *Livy: Books XXIII and XXIV, with Introduction and Notes.* Macmillan & Co. \$1.10.
 Marion, F. *Wonders of Optics.* Charles Scribner's Sons. \$1.
 Macfarren, G. A. *Musical History, with a Roll of the Names of Musicians.* Harper & Bros. 25 cents.
Magazine of Art. Vol. VIII. Cassell & Co.
 Marshall, J. *Xenophon: Anabasis, Book I.* Oxford: Clarendon Press, New York: Macmillan.
 Metcalf, Dr. A. V. *Milk Analysis and Infant Feeding.* Philadelphia: P. Blakiston, Son & Co.
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 Nind, M. L. *We Two Alone in Europe.* Chicago: Jansen, McClurg & Co. \$1.50.
 Newham, J. H. *Hymins.* E. P. Dutton & Co. \$1.25.
 Note book kept by Thomas Leachford, Esq., Lawyer in Boston, Massachusetts Bay, from June 27, 1688, to July 29, 1641. Worcester, Mass.: American Antiquarian Society.
 O'Hanlon, Alice. *The Unforeseen: A Novel.* Harper & Bros. 20 cents.
 O'Brien, R. B. *Fifty Years of Concessions to Ireland, 1831-1881.* In 2 vols. Vol. II. London: Sampson Low, Marston, Searle & Rivington.
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 Ropes, J. C. *The First Napoleon: A Sketch, Political and Military.* Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co. \$2.
 Rousseau, J. Hans Holbein. Paris: J. Rouan.
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 Sadlier, Agnes. *History of Ireland in Words of One Syllable.* George Routledge & Sons. \$1.
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 Schmidt, Prof. E. Lessing: *Geschichte seines Lebens und seiner Schriften.* Vol. II, Part I. Berlin: Wedemann.
 Shepard, J. H. *Elements of Inorganic Chemistry.* Boston: D. C. Heath & Co. \$1.25.
 Smitsen, W. H. van der. *Kinder und Hausmärchen der Brüder Grimm.* Selected and edited with English Notes. Boston: D. C. Heath & Co.
 Stables, Dr. G. Stanley Grahame, Boy and Man: *A Tale of the Dark Continent.* A. C. Armstrong & Son. \$1.50.
 Stephenson, H. M. *Ascytus, Prometheus Vinctus.* Macmillan & Co. 40 cents.
 Shoberl, W. *Extracts from Nature.* Cassell & Co.
 Sweet, H. *Extracts from Alfred's Orosius.* Oxford: Clarendon Press; New York: Macmillan.
 Sweet, H. *Selected Homilies of Asfric.* Oxford: Clarendon Press; New York: Macmillan.
 Summary of English Grammar; Compiled for the Use of the Nottin' Hill High School. London: Rivingtons.
 The Sermon on the Mount. Illustrated. Boston: Roberts Bros. \$7.50.
 The Northeastern Reporter. Vol. I. Containing all the Current Decisions of the Supreme Courts of Massachusetts, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, and the Court of Appeals of New York, July 17 September 25, 1885. St. Paul: West Publishing Co.
The Quiver: An Illustrated Magazine of Sunday and General Reading. Vol. XX. Cassell & Co.
 The World's Workers: Turner, the Artist. Charles Dickens. Handel. 3 vols. Cassell & Co.
 Thompson, W. M. *The Land and the Book: Lebanon, Damascus, and Beyond Jordan.* Harper & Brothers.
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 Yriarte, C. J. F. Millet. Paris: J. Rouan.

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